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# ARAB TIMES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1989/JAMADIUL AWWAL 4, 1410 AH

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Honasan appeals for help against US intervention; government has lost control: Enrile

## Last stand in Makati

Cory issues ultimatum; rebels seize hotel

MANILA, Dec 2, (Agencies): Mutineers seized a luxury hotel today and battled government forces with tanks and mortars despite claims that their bid to topple President Corazon Aquino had been crushed.

The fighting came two days after rebellious soldiers launched the sixth attempt to topple Aquino, the strongest since she took power in the 1986 uprising against the late President Ferdinand Marcos.

At least 16 people were killed and about 100 others wounded in today's fighting, which spread to the financial district of Makati, where many foreign businessmen and diplomats live.

According to the Red Cross, the unofficial death toll is 42, with more than 200 wounded.

A statement issued today in the name of renegade Lieut Col Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan denounced

Aquino for requesting US air support during the coup attempt. He called on the public to support mutineers for "the attainment of a genuine Filipino government."

Late today, rebels firing from a speeding car killed one policeman and wounded 14 others, including a lieutenant colonel, as they were preparing to retake the intercontinental hotel, seized by the mutineers earlier in the day.

Also today, three gunmen fired at the Makati home of Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, but he was not there.

In the working-class district of Navotas, gunmen in a passenger jeep police believe may have been communists fired at a capital command station, killing 14 soldiers and a civilian, and fleeing with the victims' pistols.

Earlier today, government jets and helicopter gunships pounded rebel positions near armed forces headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo. Rebels fired back with tanks, mortars and machine-guns.

In one attack, air force jets accidentally strafed 2,000 pro-government troopers, killing six of them and wounding 20 others.

Fighting persisted despite government claims that it had crushed the coup attempt, which began on Friday when mutineers seized Villamor air base, the government television station and other strongpoints.

The rebels withdrew from most places after US warplanes began flying air cover for government troops at Aquino's request.

But military Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa said rebels still controlled parts of Manila and the Mactan air base in Cebu, south of Manila.

Manila's international airport remained closed for a second day, and all domestic flights from the capital were cancelled.

Opposition Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, who was fired as defence minister after a failed coup in 1986, said the situation showed the government had lost control of most of its 160,000-member military.

Aquino, flanked by her cabinet ministers in a nationally televised news conference today, said that most of the rebels had either surrendered or been driven from their strongholds and predicted the coup attempt would be over by the end of the day.

The President, who has crushed six other coup attempts, said her forces would hunt down and "bring to justice" the rebels and their supporters, including politicians and civilians.

More coverage on page 10 & 11



Aquino addresses a news conference. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Cory urged to be iron fisted

Filipinos worried

By Fathima Ahmed  
Arab Times staff

THE Philippines Senate has urged Filipinos to unite and rally behind the country's government to preserve freedom and democracy. The Senate, in a resolution, also appealed to the army to put down the rebellion.

The resolution, No. CIR 343/89, passed on Dec 1, was circulated to all Philippines embassies and consulates and was obtained by the Arab Times from the embassy in Kuwait.

It expresses "full and unqualified allegiance, fidelity and support" to the government. It was between 30,000 and 40,000 Filipinos in Kuwait. A majority, in a random opinion poll, expressed concern over the coup attempt and hoped for stability in their country. Several Filipinos urged their government to safeguard lives.

Said one Filipino nurse: "I am worried about my family back home. I have my son there."

Another, Sonny Mariano, described the attempted coup as an "unfortunate incident." He said the prospects of economic recovery look "more dim" now.

The Philippines was recently opened to foreign investors. (Continued on Page 11, Col. 1)

French  
MPs  
back  
Aoun

BEIRUT, Dec 2, (Agencies): Eight French lawmakers arrived in Lebanon today to declare support for Christian Gen. Michel Aoun against a feared Syrian attack to dislodge him from the presidential palace east of Beirut.

The right-wing parliamentarians did not make any statements when they arrived at the shell-wrecked palace in suburban Baabda.

They held a brief meeting with Aoun, then joined a dozen or so of the thousands of Christian youths camped in the pine woods around the palace since Tuesday to raise the ante if Syria decides to attack Aoun.

Before leaving Paris, a statement said the eight were heading to Lebanon to "assure a permanent French elected presence by the side of the Lebanese resistance."

Earlier this week 33 right-wing French Parliament members visited the Christian enclave for 24 hours to declare support for Aoun.

The Muslim Voice of the Nation radio said the final decision on how to evict Aoun from the palace would be taken next week.

It said Hirawi agreed to delay the move in an effort to prevent bloodshed.

"But if Aoun refuses to end his mutiny peacefully, then the proper decision will be taken," the radio said.

British Ambassador John Alan Ramsey also counselled a "solution through peaceful means."

Ramsey made the brief remark after a 30-minute meeting with Hirawi at the latter's residence in a Lebanese Army barracks in the eastern Bekaa Valley.

An Nahar, an independent daily, quoted Hirawi as saying an assault to dislodge Aoun from the presidential palace has been delayed at the request of a "number of Arab and foreign states" that he did not identify.

But at a news conference on Thursday, Hirawi said, "the day of judgment is very near."

A government source said France was mediating in the conflict between Aoun and Hirawi by proposing to freeze certain controversial clauses in the Taif accord. He would not specify which clauses nor indicate how freezing them might help.

The foreign ministers of Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia — who drafted the peace plan — will meet in Riyadh tomorrow to discuss the situation in Lebanon, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

Prime Minister Salim Hoss, who heads a national reconciliation government appointed by Hirawi a week ago, moved to further isolate Aoun by informing foreign ambassadors that dealing with him was unacceptable.

Weather

CLOUDY to partly cloudy weather and a chance for rain with moderate south-southeast wind.  
State-of-the-Moderate  
High water: 9:30 am, 4:13 pm  
Low water: 9:00 am, 3:56 pm  
Sunrise: 6:26 am  
Sunset: 4:49 pm  
Maximum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 30°C/60°F  
Ahmed: 24°C/75°F  
Fahd: 23°C/73°F  
Minimum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 13°C/55°F  
Ahmed: 16°C/61°F  
Fahd: 15°C/59°F  
Maximum temperatures expected:  
Kuwait: 22°C/72°F  
Ahmed: 21°C/70°F  
Fahd: 21°C/70°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 84 per cent  
Ahmed: 86 per cent  
Fahd: 85 per cent



New premier sworn in: Devi Lal deputy PM



## Singh tackles prices

Punjab elections ordered: Rajiv's last act

NEW DELHI, Dec 2, (Agencies): Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the leader of the opposition coalition that ousted Rajiv Gandhi from power with promises of a honest government was sworn in today as prime minister of India.

For only the second time in the history of modern India, the country won't be led by the Congress Party.

"I will do my duty," Singh told reporters after the ceremony. "My government will be a government of the people."

Devi Lal, Singh's 75-year-old colleague in the National Front coalition, was named deputy prime minister and also took the oath of allegiance to the country's constitution.

The 58-year-old Singh must

now complete his cabinet and win a vote of confidence from the majority of the 525 Members of Parliament's policy-making lower house.

President Ramaswamy Venkataaraman, who administered the oath of office at the Presidential Palace, has given Singh 30 days to prove his support in Parliament.

Singh, wearing a black hat and knee-length gray coat, smiled as the crowd burst into applause in an ornate chamber of the palace.

Rajiv, now consigned to the role of opposition leader, was one of the first to offer Singh congratulations after the 10-minute ceremony. Singh served in Rajiv's cabinet before resigning from the Congress Party.

"I wish him well," Rajiv said

later. "I hope he completes his five-year term."

Singh's first day at the office as prime minister was quiet. About three hours after being sworn in, he drove to the prime minister's office in South Block, where he presided over a meeting of senior secretaries to the government to discuss the price situation in the country. Singh had promised to accord top priority to the task of tackling the rising prices of essential commodities.

Those who attended the meeting included principal secretary to prime minister, B.G. Deshmukh, Finance Secretary Gopala Arora, Food Secretary B.B. Mahajan, Civil Supplies Secretary N. Raghubanathan.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Airlines cancel Manila flights

By Fathima Ahmed  
Arab Times staff

THOUSANDS of Filipinos in Kuwait, waiting to go home for Christmas, have been forced to put off plans due to the unstable condition in Manila.

At the time of going to press, all four airlines, operating flights from Kuwait and via Dubai, had cancelled their flights.

Four airlines — KAC, Philippines Airways, Malaysian Airways and Gulf Air — altogether operate nine flights from Kuwait to Manila. Malaysian Airlines goes via Dubai and Kuala Lumpur to Manila and Gulf Air flies via Bahrain.

Most passengers are adopting a wait and see attitude. "Several friends have asked me to cancel my plans to travel. I want to go. Let's wait and see what happens," said one distraught Filipino.

"I was to fly on Thursday. Now I don't know if I would be able to," said Filipino nurse Fatima. She wanted to join her son for her annual vacation.

Airlines offices have been deluged with calls by anxious passengers. "The Filipinos are a patient people; they are putting up with the cancellations," said Tareq, an official of the Philippines Airways.

"We have cancelled or postponed flights; when they will resume is anybody's guess," said another airline executive.

All KAC flights to Manila are fully booked with a long waiting list until December.

Passengers booked on Saturday's flight were turned back at Kuwait airport.

All Filipinos making travel plans are advised to check with their travel agent or airline before going to the airport.

(Continued on Page 2)

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(Continued on Page 2)



Bush shakes hands with Gorbachev. (Reuter wirephoto)

encouraging.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said: "The talks are going very well. The leaders talked about everything."

Asked if Bush and Gorbachev had talked about the cold war,

Gerasimov replied: "The cold war is over."

The two leaders sat down in a cramped saloon on the berthed Soviet cruise liner for their first meeting since Bush entered the White House in January.

Winds of more than 50 miles

Earlier Report Page 7

## Armenia votes to annex Karabakh

MOSCOW, Dec 2, (AP): The Armenian republic legislature has voted to annex the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region in response to the national parliament's vote giving some control back to neighbouring Azerbaijan, an activist said today.

The move is unlikely to be recognized by Moscow and may add to tension between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

## ARAB TIMES

Grand Bingo

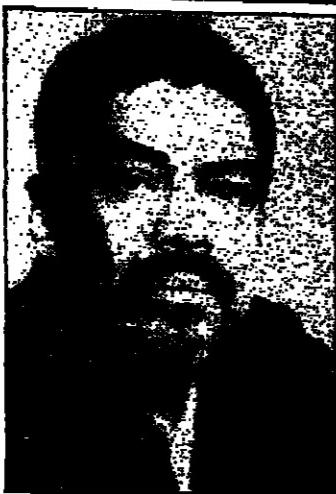
Tony Alick has won the Four Corners prize. He will receive KD25, Game No. 74 continues for the Top Line, First, Second and Third Full House prizes.



## INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1989

## PEOPLE AND PLACES



**CHICAGO:** Chicago municipal officials have given preliminary approval for a 125-storey building that would be 15 floors higher than the Sears Tower, the world's tallest building.

The endorsement from the city planning commission leaves only a vote by the city council before the project could begin, the developers said.

The 1,950-foot (595-metre) building would also be the world's tallest self-supporting structure, a title currently held by the 1,621-foot (493-metre) CN Tower in Toronto.

Developers Lee Migglin and J. Paul Beiter said the needle-like spire would cost up to \$400 million to build, and that much of the financing has already been lined up. (Reuters)

**UNIVERSAL CITY, California:** Thrill rides through a laser-filled space station scene and into outer space aboard a bicycle with E.T. The Extraterrestrial are part of a planned \$3-billion MCA Inc. theme park near London.

The park, described in a planning application submitted to British authorities Monday, is similar to another MCA amusement park recently proposed for a site outside Paris.

MCA will develop only one of the European sites. Officials hope to open the new park in 1994.

The entertainment company that operates the famed Universal Studios has been planning to spend \$1 billion to build the park and a studio with additional development space to expand and erect a hotel. G.M.C.A. also is developing studio parks in Florida and Japan. (AP)

**SAN DIEGO:** An elephant which recently underwent a historic Caesarean section was destroyed Thursday night when veterinarian determined a raging infection was incurable, said officials at the San Diego Wild Animal Park.

Veterinary surgeons decided to operate again on Jean, a 19-year-old Asian elephant, because she had not eaten since Sunday and had not been responding to painkillers and antibiotics, park spokesman Tom Hanscom said.

"Once inside the abdomen we found severe infection of the abdominal wall," Hanscom said. "The uterus had ruptured, not at the suturing point (from the C-section), but rather at a spot apparently weakened by the infection found in the womb during the C-section. (UPI)

## Choreographer dies

Alvin Ailey, a choreographer and founder of one of the foremost modern dance companies in the world, died on Friday of a blood disease, a spokesman for his company said. He was 58.

The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, founded in 1958, has been a showcase for innovative dance.

Ailey had been suffering from blood dyscrasia for about a year.

The 79 ballets he choreographed have joined the repertory of dance companies around the world.

**TORONTO:** Police officer Edward Brennan caught the driver of a stolen car and earned a special commendation for good police work — and a traffic ticket for failing to halt at a stop sign during the high-speed chase.

His lawyer Russell Brady, said on Friday: "What we have got is a situation where the law requires one thing but the practical consequences of it are frightening. Police officers will stop at signs while people taking a bank can speed off."

A Niagara Falls provincial court replaced Brennan's \$45 fine with probation but the Ontario supreme court turned down his appeal against conviction. (Reuters)

**MONACO:** A painting by 18th-century Venetian painter Francesco Guardi was sold for \$3 million francs (\$1.4 million) at an auction on Friday night.

Malta's auctioneer Simon de Pury told reporters it was a world record for a Guardi painting and the second highest price paid for an "old master."

He did not name the buyer or say

## Ex-boxer lends name to new cologne Smell like...Muhammad Ali

**MONTGOMERY, Alabama:** Dec 2, (AP): Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee, and smell like ... Muhammad Ali.

The former heavyweight champion, now on a promotional shuffle for Muhammad Ali Cologne, took jabs at Calvin Klein and Liz Taylor yesterday and explained why Joe Frazier could never put his name on perfume.

"It wouldn't smell good," Ali said.

The 47-year-old Ali, ginning slyly and joking with reporters at a news conference in a Montgomery Hotel, said he doesn't mind going over rounds with fans who line up to buy the product and get his autograph. "I'm making my comeback," he said.

Asked if he would put his name on other products,

he said he would not do anything that would be contrary to his image and beliefs, such as endorsing underwear.

Ali was quick with his comebacks to reporters' questions, sprayed the cologne on himself and several of the newsmen performed a disappearing handkerchief magic trick, and scowled and faked punches like the young champ once did in the ring.

But Ali, who has suffered from health problems since he retired from boxing, appeared sluggish physically, with little bounce as he moved about. His voice was almost a whisper, and there was often a tremor to his arms when he otherwise sat virtually motionless on a sofa.



Lord Aldington outside the high court in London Nov 30 where the libel trial was heard (Reuters photo)

## \$2.3m libel award

### Criticism renewed of jury rights

**LONDON:** Dec 2, (AP): A case at the high court in London has set a new record for British libel damages: £1.5 million (\$2.3 million).

The award Thursday against historian Count Nikolai Tolstoy, a descendant of Russian novelist Leo Tolstoy, and businessman Nigel Watts, renewed calls to strip British libel juries of their exclusive right to decide the amount of damages.

The award, which brought gasps from spectators, is three times higher than the previous British libel record of £500,000 pounds (\$785,000) to novelist and ex-politician Jeffrey Archer in 1987 against the Star. The London newspaper had alleged Archer had a sexual liaison with a prostitute.

In addition to the damages Tolstoy and Watts must share for calling former Conservative Party deputy chairman Lord Aldington, 75, a war criminal, they must pay his legal cost, estimated by the Times of London at £1.4 million (\$2.1 million).

The London tabloid the Daily Mirror commen-

ted yesterday: "The law's ... gone loony ... Lord is awarded £1.5 million (\$2.3 million)."

The Times in an editorial yesterday said: "The award ... is so manifestly extravagant that it has brought the law into disrepute."

British libel juries have escalated damages awards in recent years, reportedly largely as a result of public dislike of the nation's intrusive, sensationalist tabloid press.

At issue during the 41-day hearing was an accusation contained in 10,000 copies of a pamphlet written by Tolstoy and circulated by Watts in the spring of 1987.

The pamphlet was sent to legislators and the news media among others. Aldington is former chairman of the Sun Alliance Insurance Company. Watts at the time was campaigning on behalf of his sister over an insurance claim the company refused to pay.

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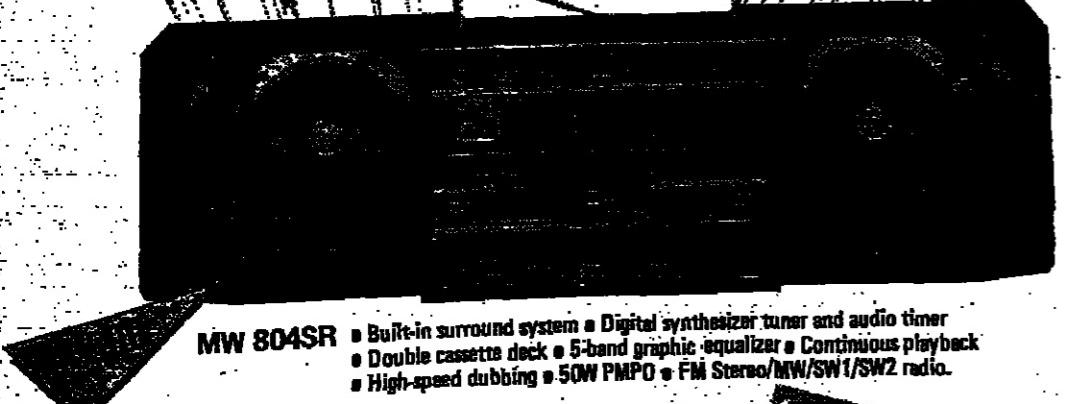
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BY ANGEL THIRUVADAREN

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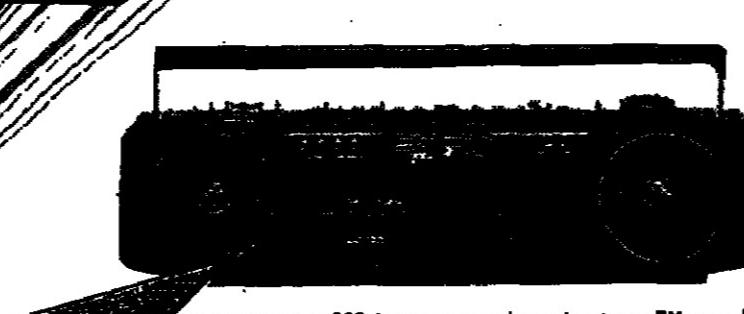
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- 22W PMPO & Auto Reverse
- Digital audio timer
- Double cassette deck
- 4-band graphic equalizer
- One-push high-speed dubbing
- 2-way, 4-speaker system
- Auto stop

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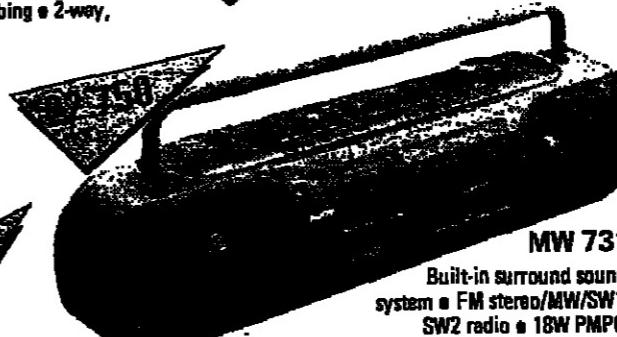
- 5-band graphic equalizer
- One-touch recording
- CD/line inputs



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radio/14W PMPO & High-speed  
& synchronized dubbing
- 3-band graphic equalizer
- Continuous playback
- One-touch recording
- Full auto stop
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alarm increment & One-touch  
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- Auto stop & Cue  
and review
- Built-in microphone



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radio & 18W PMPO
- High speed & synchronized dubbing
- Continuous playback
- One-touch recording
- Full auto-stop & Variable monitoring system



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Salvador rebels fire Sams

# Fighting flares



All ready for combat

A Salvadoran soldier sprays the street with M-16 rifle in Soyapango, El Salvador, as government forces advanced on FMLN guerrilla positions. Graffiti on wall reads: 'Dialogue.' (Reuter wirephoto)

## Extraditables declare truce

### Poll on extradition

BOGOTA, Dec 2, (AP): A political leader said last night that the country's cocaine traffickers have declared a "unilateral ceasefire" in their terror campaign to allow a referendum on the issue of extraditing drug suspects to the United States.

Norberto Morales Ballesteros, president of the House of Representatives, said the drug lords wanted "to permit the Congress to call a referendum of the Colombian people to abolish the extradition of Colombians to the United States."

Earlier a congressional committee ignored government appeals and approved a bill to have voters decide if suspected drug traffickers should be extradited to the United States for prosecution.

If adopted by Congress and signed by President Virgilio Barco, the bill would provide for a referendum to determine if the extradition of Colombian drug suspects should continue.

Morales Ballesteros told the television news programme, '24 Hours' that a spokesman for the Extraditables, a terrorist group linked to the Medellin cocaine cartel, communicated the announcement to him.

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SAN SALVADOR, Dec 2, (AP): Army troops and leftist rebels battled in two poor neighbourhoods yesterday, and fighting flared in scattered areas to the north and south of the capital, the military said.

The armed forces press office said there had been fighting overnight in the working-class neighbourhoods of Ciudad Delgado and Soyapango. Rebels remained in Ciudad Delgado but withdrew from Soyapango, it said.

Both neighbourhoods were major combat zones in the early days of the three-week-old offensive by the leftist Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. The fighting has left thousands of poor and working-class residents homeless.

President Alfredo Cristiani said leftist rebels had begun using advanced Soviet-made anti-aircraft missiles, a development experts say could change the course of the war.

Cristiani suspended relations with Managua last week, having alleged that Sam-7 missile shipments had been sent from Soviet-backed Nicaragua to the rebels.

"We have information ... that the FMLN has so far used two Sam-7s," Cristiani told a news conference. "Both missed their targets."

Cristiani said the rebels had fired at A-37 ground attack fighters near the town of Zacatecoluca.

Salvador's US-backed rightist government accused leftist Nicaragua of supplying the missiles and suspended relations. The United States filed a formal protest with the Soviet Union, which arms Nicaragua, and the issue is on the agenda for the summit this weekend off the coast of Malta.

In Tonacatepeque, 10 miles (16 kms) north of San Salvador, one soldier and one guerrilla were reported wounded in fighting.

Residents of Escalon, the capital's most exclusive neighbourhood, began repairing houses pocked with bullet holes when guerrillas took over about 40 homes in the zone and another exclusive neighbourhood on Wednesday. Other residents, fearing more fighting, closed their homes and left for the homes of relatives or went abroad.

American citizens were evacuated from the area during a rebel-declared ceasefire on Thursday. More than 200 embassy dependents and private citizens left El Salvador on a charter flight arranged by the US embassy.

Soldiers from El Salvador's toughest battalions patrolled the streets of Escalon and surrounding neighbourhoods to fend off further rebel attacks. The streets were littered with spent cartridges, burned-out luxury cars and downed power lines.

Meanwhile, the armed forces warned journalists to be "objective" in their reporting on the war and searched the homes of several journalists.

"Some agencies greatly distort or exaggerate the news they send to diverse countries of the world," said a communiqué from the armed forces press committee, Copresa.

A freelance photographer working for the French news agency Agence France Presse was killed yesterday while covering fighting in San Salvador.

Eyewitnesses said that Eloy Guevara, a 26-year-old Salvadorean, was hit by automatic weapons fire in the embattled San Salvador suburb of Soyapango.

Guerillas in El Salvador have a potent new weapon in surface-to-air missiles, and the Salvadoran military will be forced to change tactics now that it no longer has free rein in the skies, US military officers say.

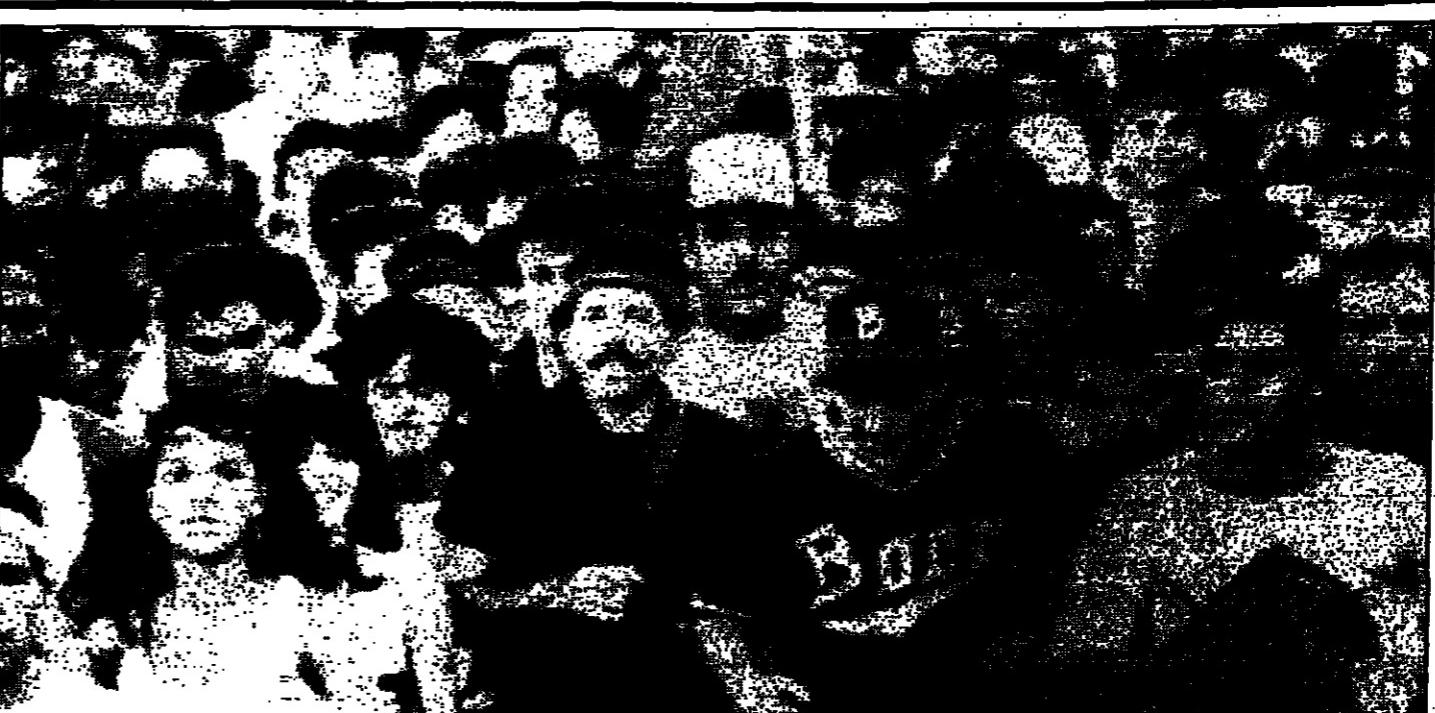
El Salvador's ambassador to the United States said the murders of six Jesuit priests in a black page in his country's history, and that an independent investigation will expose the killers.

Ambassador Miguel Salaverría said his government has asked for the help of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation and police investigative agencies in Britain, Canada, and Spain to identify the killers of the six priests, their housekeeper and her daughter last month in San Salvador.

He added that the democracy movement has caused Chinese leaders to restrict many of the freedoms once allowed in China, but news of democratic reforms in Eastern Europe have given the Chinese people hope that change will occur.

He said an investigation confirmed that the Chinese, including one woman and 11 men ranging in age from 16 to 40, were being sought by Chinese authorities for joining in pro-democracy protests in China in May and June.

The spokesman said legal action would be required



Nicaragua refuses

The government said it will not allow into Nicaragua any members of a US election observer team named by US President George Bush because of Washington's financial aid to an opposition candidate.

Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto said the Nicaraguan government has invited observers from the United Nations, the Organisation of American States (OAS) and the other international observers, including former president Jimmy Carter, to witness activities leading up to the Feb 25

national elections.

D'Escoto said members of these organisations, which have offices in Managua, "are experienced electoral observers, their honesty is unquestionable and they are absolutely impartial."

"Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of President Bush, or any commission designated by him to observe the elections in Nicaragua," he said in a statement.

"Nicaragua, therefore, will grant neither observer credentials nor visas to members of Bush's

presidential commission."

The US Congress and the Bush administration have approved \$3 million in contributions to the presidential campaign of Nicaraguan opposition candidate Violeta Chamorro of the National Opposition Union, or UNO.

Earlier yesterday in Washington, four members of Congress who had planned to visit Nicaragua over the weekend as part of the US observer team, said they received a letter from D'Escoto denying them entry visas. (Reuter wirephoto).

# Vote rigging in Taiwan through 'silver bullets'

### Opposition supporters surround govt offices

TAIPEI, Dec 2, (AP): Tens of thousands of angry opposition supporters surrounded government office buildings in several cities early today after allegations of ballot-rigging marred Taiwan's first multiparty election.

However, Taiwan's feisty opposition party was putting on a strong showing, garnering 35 per cent of the vote, according to incomplete election results.

An opposition leader said he had protested to the Ministry of Interior about alleged vote-rigging by the ruling nationalist party.

"If the nationalists want a riot, we can do it," warned Tsai Shih-Yuan,

deputy secretary-general of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party.

About 30,000 screaming opposition supporters flocked to government offices in the central city of Nantou. More than 4,000 riot police blocked their path into the building, an opposition official said.

In Tainan in the south, 20,000 people massed at county government offices to protest alleged vote-rigging, another opposition official said. Protests also broke out in Taichung, an industrial city in the south.

There were no immediate reports of violence.

The Independence Evening News had reported large-scale distribution of "silver bullets," or bribes, before campaigning ended yesterday.

The newspaper said "the ballot price went up as the election approached."

"Some candidates threw down big bucks," it said.

A State-run television said "computer problems" held up counting in an important race for executive in Taipei county, the home base of President Lee Teng-Hui. Opposition leaders have warned of vote-rigging in that district, where a loss to the nationalists would be a slap to the face of Lee.

Pundits say the opposition Democratic Progressive Party must win 35 per cent of the vote and several of the county magistrate seats for the election to be considered a victory. Opposition to the nationalists was banned under martial law, imposed by the late强人蔣介石. In local elections in 1986, opposition candidates won 22 per cent of the vote.

In all, 722 candidates are running in the legislative, mayoral and county magistrate races.

The vote doesn't threaten the nationalists' hold on the country, but it is significant because it is the first national election since martial law was lifted in 1987 and the first time the ruling party faces legal opposition.

In the race for legislative seats from the capital, Taipei, national candidates won eight of 12 seats.

Incomplete results indicated that Jaw Shau-Kong, a popular Nationalist Party legislator, was far ahead in his Taipei district.

Jaw has pushed for political reform, calling for the retirement of ageing legislators and negotiations with the communist government in Beijing.

In the industrial city of Kaohsiung, Hsu Hsiao-Dan, a former dancer, model and painter, was falling behind in her race for the legislature. Hsu, called for universal love and freedom in her campaign, during which she distributed nude photos of herself.

During the balloting yesterday one voter told the Associated Press she sold her and her husband's vote to a nationalist candidate for 500 NT (\$19) each.

Other voters confirmed that the going price for a vote was about 500 NT, although one woman said she only received 200 NT (\$8).



Flag, anthem must at schools

### Japan changes

TOKYO, Dec 2, (AP): All public high schools in Japan will be required to hoist the national flag and students will be required to sing the national anthem as part of curriculum changes starting next year, officials said.

The new curriculum rules adopted by the Education Ministry are to be phased in from 1990 to 1994. They require teachers to hoist Japan's flag and have students sing the anthem at graduation ceremonies and other school events.

Children will be taught simply to pay more respect to the flag and the song of the nation, said Yoshimasa Yoshihomi, another ministry spokesman.

"The ministry's basic stance has always been the same," he said.

Onishi said among the major objectives of the latest curriculum changes is to have students understand traditional and international culture.

The ministry had announced earlier this year that similar changes in public elementary and junior high schools will begin next April.

Currently, less than half of the 7,000 public schools throughout the nation hoist national flags and sing the anthem at ceremonies, and the new rule is expected to draw fire from many teachers who resist it because of bitter memories of nationalism during the World War II era.

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### S. Korea negotiating with Taiwan to resettle defectors

SEOUL, Dec 2, (AP): South Korea is negotiating with Taiwan over the resettlement of 12 Chinese who arrived in South Korea aboard a chartered boat and asked for political asylum in Taiwan, the Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

Chang Hoon, a ministry spokesman, said his government was in contact with the Taiwan and the UN High Commissioner on Refugees to help the Chinese settle in Taiwan.

He said an investigation confirmed that the Chinese, including one woman and 11 men ranging in age from 16 to 40, were being sought by Chinese authorities for joining in pro-democracy protests in China in May and June.

The spokesman said legal action would be required

against the Chinese because of their illegal entry into South Korea before they could be sent to a third country.

Chang did not say what punishment the Chinese would receive under Korean law, but one legal expert said they could be fined a nominal amount of money and then be allowed to leave the country.

Immigration officials earlier said the refugees, all from China's Zhejiang province, paid 1,000 yuan (about \$300) each to board a small fishing boat and left a port north of Shanghai on Nov 15 to go to Taiwan.

The wooden boat, unable to pass through tight Chinese coastal security, changed its course, headed for South Korea and disappeared after landing the passengers on the southern island of Cheju on Nov 21, the officials said.

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# De Klerk in Ivory Coast for talks

YAMOUSSOUKRO, Ivory Coast, Dec 2, (AP): Hundreds of schoolchildren greeted South African President F.W. de Klerk singing "Long live de Klerk," "Long live dialogue," as he arrived yesterday for talks with Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

The Ivorian, Africa's longest serving leader, long has advocated talks with South Africa to dismantle the apartheid system of legal race discrimination.

Houphouet-Boigny opposes the sanctions espoused by most black African leaders.

Thousands of people lined the wide avenues of Houphouet-Boigny's hometown to welcome de Klerk as officials from his party called the first official state visit by a South African head of state since the early 1970s.

Buses brought many to the wide avenues of Houphouet-Boigny wants to make the nation's capital, 200 kilometres (120 miles) north of Abidjan. The President already has built several mammoth ornate buildings here, and workers recently completed construction of a basilica that rivals St. Peter's in the Vatican.

South African flags waved above the steamy runway as the South African Airways Boeing 747 carrying de Klerk arrived at midday.

Aides said Houphouet-Boigny was "slightly under the weather," but met de Klerk as the South African stepped off the plane in 35-degree-Celsius (95-degree-Fahrenheit) heat.

A front-page editorial in the government-controlled daily Fraternite Matin said Houphouet-Boigny would urge de Klerk to "advance resolutely on the path of reforms already undertaken and whose echo has already begun to shake the citadel of apartheid."

The editorial said South Africa's strong economy and technological base can aid Africa. South Africa already has supplied Ivory Coast with animals for a national park near here, a project close to the heart of Houphouet-Boigny.

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## Labour ahead of Tories

LONDON, Dec 2. (Reuters): Britain's opposition Labour Party is 10 points ahead of the ruling Conservatives while Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is at her lowest opinion poll rating since 1987, according to a new opinion poll.

The British Broadcasting Corporation "poll of polls", released yesterday was an average of the most recent surveys by the six main polling organisations in Britain over the past two weeks. It showed Labour at 47 per cent, down one point from the previous month, with the Conservatives trailing at 37 per cent, one point up.

In the leadership stakes, Labour leader Neil Kinnock was ahead with 41 per cent saying they are satisfied with his leadership, while Thatcher rated only 33 per cent.

The figures were Kinnock's best showing and Thatcher's worst since the 1987 general election.

The BBC's Newsnight programme, which commissioned the poll, said six polling organisations spoke to just under 6,000 people in the last two weeks.

Thatcher is preparing to face her first leadership challenge next week after a little known Member of Parliament, Sir Anthony Meyer, said he would stand against her.

Takes own life

## Doc shoots colleagues

CATANIA, Sicily, Dec 2. (AP): A doctor stormed into an operating room, shot a colleague to death, wounded his physician girlfriend and fled himself yesterday, while surgeons nearby operated on a child, Italian news agencies reported.

The AGI agency said Vincenzo Parisi, 34, whipped out a pistol after quarrelling over suspicions that the woman paediatrician he lived with was having an affair with Giovanni Cusani, another doctor on the staff at Catania's Victor Emmanuel hospital.

It said that after fatally shooting Cusani, Parisi, an anaesthetist at the hospital, shot his girlfriend in the abdomen, wounding her. Then he fled, according to AGI. A report did not give the woman's name nor specify her condition.



Chin Peng: truce

## Insurgency in Malaysia ends

### Communists give up

HAT YAI, Thailand, Dec 2. (AP): One of world's longest insurrections formally ended today as guerrillas of the Communist Party of Malaya vowed to lay down their arms and pledged loyalty to king and country.

Ceasefire agreements among the communists, Malaysia and Thailand brought to a close 41 years of conflict that cost thousands of lives and at one time involved some 70,000 British Commonwealth troops.

A joint communiqué said the CPB had agreed "to terminate all armed activities and bring peace to the entire Thai-Malaysian border and Malaysia."

The communiqué said two agreements were reached, one between Malaysia and the CPB and the other between Thailand's internal security operations command and the communists.

"We shall disband our armed units and destroy our weapons to show our sincerity to terminate the armed struggle," CPB secretary general and veteran revolutionary Chin Peng said in a speech at the signing ceremony.

"As Malaysian citizens, we pledge our loyalty to his majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong (king) and the country," said Chin Peng, who for decades had sought to topple the Malaysian government by force.

## Pollard's wife released to halfway house

NEW YORK, Dec 2. (AP): Anna Henderson-Pollard, imprisoned for helping her husband spy on the US government for Israel, has been moved from federal prison to a Manhattan halfway house, officials confirmed yesterday. Mrs Henderson-Pollard had served two years and eight months of her five-year sentence when she was released from the federal prison in Danbury, Connecticut, according to Steve Finger, acting executive assistant at the prison.

She was placed in the custody of the women's prison Association and Hopper House, which maintains a halfway house on Manhattan's lower east side.

She was released on Nov 20. Her father, Bernard R.

Henderson of Secaucus, New Jersey, said little was made of the change because his daughter — who suffers from bilary dyskinesia, a rare gastro-intestinal disorder — "needed a little time just to stand up. Every day she does a little better."

Mrs Henderson-Pollard is scheduled to be released on probation on March 30. She has applied for "curfew parole," a form of house arrest, and could be granted that status as early as the end of next month.

She also has applied for early release. As grounds, she cited an incident in which she went to the aid of a Danbury guard who was suffering a breakdown.

## NOTICE TO SHIPPERS AND FORWARDING AGENTS

The lines listed below advise that with effect from 1/1/90 their tariff for container freight from Gulf ports to the U.K., North West Continent and Mediterranean ports will be adjusted to the following:

To direct call ports, also Antwerp and Bremerhaven.

Per 20 ft container	US\$550
Per 40 ft container	US\$900

To Aarhus an additional of US\$250/400 will apply:

For special equipment, rates as follows:

Open Top Container	Additional US\$100/200
Out of Gauge	Additional 30% each dimension
Flat Rack	Sea Frt US\$1000/1500
Refrigerated Container	Sea Frt US\$1500/2800

Please note also that the basic rate will be further adjusted on 1/3/90 to:

Per 20 ft container	US\$600
Per 40 ft container	US\$1100

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## Hunt on for Red Army suspect

### Herrhausen attack planned in advance

BAD HOMBURG, West Germany, Dec 2. (AP): Police were searching nationwide yesterday for one of the most wanted Red Army Faction suspects in connection with the bombing death of influential banker Alfred Herrhausen, authorities said yesterday.

A Hamburg court in 1981 convicted Seidler of supporting the Red Army Faction. Seidler has been a fugitive for several years. His name routinely appears on a wanted poster of two dozen leftist terrorists that is displayed in West German post offices and

other public places, said prosecutor's spokesman Hans-Jürgen Foerster.

The 31-year-old Seidler has been involved with the Red Army Faction for at least a decade, said the statement from the office of chief Federal prosecutor Kurt Rehmann.

Rehmann added that Seidler is also being sought in connection with a terrorist-backed bank robbery in 1985.

The chief federal prosecutor said the terrorists had planned the attack against Herrhausen

weeks in advance.

"Near the area of the attack wires had been buried in the asphalt. The asphalt had been chiseled out up to nearby bushes, and after the wires were laid, filled in again," Rehmann said.

The asphalt sidewalk at the site of the attack is about four feet (1.20 metres) wide.

Rehmann said the terrorists took care to tint the new asphalt poured over the wires the same shade as the rest of the sidewalk, in order to make the work unnoticeable.



## Greek govt backed

ATHENS, Dec 2. (Reuters): Greece's new national unity government won a confidence vote in Parliament today clearing the way for tough economic measures to cut huge public deficits.

With the support of 292 votes in the 300-seat Parliament, the government of economist Prime Minister Xenophon Zolotas will enforce measures including tax hikes and price rises for electricity, water, telephones and public transportation.

"We must face the economic crisis caused by the huge deficit. It is getting bigger and bigger and if we don't face it I don't know what will happen to our country," Zolotas said in an address to Parliament.

Conservatives, socialists and communists set disagreements aside to form Greece's first all-party government since the Second World War because of growing concern over an enormous public sector deficit and economic stagnation.

Their agreement on a short-term government, supported by the overall majority in Parliament, postponed a possible third election this year until next April.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

**US strips citizenship:** The US Justice Department said yesterday it had obtained a court order stripping US citizenship from a former Ohio man accused of serving as a Nazi SS guard at World War II concentration camp.

A federal judge in Washington issued a default order that stripped Jakob Frank Denzinger, 65, formerly of Akron, Ohio, of his legal rights as a US citizen, the department said.

US district judge John Pratt issued the order last Monday after the attorney for Denzinger told the government his client did not plan to respond to the charges. (AP)

**Khmer Rouge agrees to talks:** The Khmer Rouge, the largest Cambodian guerrilla group, has agreed to attend new talks on ending the 11-year-old war against the Vietnamese-installed Cambodian government, a Thai Foreign Ministry official said yesterday.

All major parties in the conflict now have agreed to attend the talks, being organised by Indonesia. Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said the talks may be held in Indonesia's capital, Jakarta, by February. (AP)

**China seeks Indonesia ties:** China announced today that the first official Chinese delegation to Indonesia in more than two decades will be dispatched to Jakarta tomorrow to discuss normalising relations between the two countries.

Indonesia broke diplomatic relations with China in the mid-1960s after alleging the Chinese had supported Indonesian communists in an abortive coup attempt against the Jakarta government.

The two countries last February reached an agreement on restoring relations. Unofficial trade relations have already resumed. (UPI)

**5 executed in China:** Five men were executed in northeastern China yesterday for stealing equipment that resulted in power outages and crop damage, an official report said.

Zhou Mingyu and Liu Gang of Sulan county in Jilin province destroyed seven transformers and stole 3,500 yards (3,200 metres) of wire in 1988, the Xinhua news agency said.

That caused damage worth \$5,400, cut power to 400 households in six villages and interfered with the irrigation of 296 acres (119 hectares) of rice paddies, the report said. (AP)

**US sanctions called absurd:** President Francisco Rodriguez denounced the Bush administration yesterday for implementing what he called an "unimaginative, absurd policy" banning Panamanian-flagged vessels from entering US ports.

The ban, which would go into effect Feb 1, is expected to drastically reduce revenues to Panama, which registers about 14 per cent of the world's merchant ships, partly because of relatively low costs. The measure is aimed at increasing pressure on Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega. (UPI)

**Court voids poll results:** The superior court annulled yesterday the results of general elections in the southeastern province of Murcia, in Spain calling new elections in an order affecting the ruling Socialist Party's majority in parliament.

The three-judge Murcia superior court was trying to resolve a bitter dispute over a vote recount. (AP)

**Lawyers seek Moon release:** Lawyers petitioned the South Korean government today to release an elderly, ailing dissident serving a 10-year sentence for secretly visiting North Korea.

Defense lawyers for the Rev. Moon Il-Hwan said in a letter sent to the Seoul appellate court that Moon, 71, is suffering from heart and kidney ailments and his condition was deteriorating. (UPI)

## PHILIPS

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# ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

THE CRUElest lies are often told in silence — Robert Louis Stevenson, Scottish-born writer (1850 - 1894).

# Iron Curtain torn down

## Nitze takes pride

**WASHINGTON**, (Reuters): For most of the past five decades Paul Nitze has been at the forefront of US policy toward the Soviet Union and now, having reached age 82, he is watching with fascination the crumbling of the Iron Curtain.

In one capacity or another, Nitze has served every president since Franklin Roosevelt, handling the push and pull of diplomacy with a toughness learned at an early age, when he joined a gang as a schoolboy in Chicago.

Nitze, who helped formulate the Marshall Plan that rebuilt Western Europe after World War Two, sees the changing face of Eastern Europe as a victory for the US policy of containing the spread of communism.

"The drive of the communist ideology is more or less finished," he says. But, he adds, the rapidity of events gives rise to a certain sense of trepidation.

"I don't think anybody has an idea what will happen in six months in Eastern Europe," Nitze said in an interview.

### Dangers

"I do indeed feel that something good can happen. Of course, there are dangers involved, and one has to be cautious and prudent in a situation like that. It's been a glorious period, particularly in East Germany."

"The vision of a breakthrough from this horrible life in which much of the world has been contained, this repressive communist dominance, is a glorious thing."

Nitze, who gives candid portraits of the world leaders with whom he has worked in recently published memoirs, "from Hiroshima to Glasnost," says Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is bowed under the weight of enormous economic problems.

"I believe he's in trouble," Nitze said. "He's an outstanding and interesting and forceful character. It's a pleasure to be with him and watch him."

"But I really don't think he's a great strategist. He's a better tactician. He has ideas on where he wants to go but he doesn't, to me, have a clear path on how to get there."

### Control

Through the decades Nitze's specialty has been arms control. It was he who took the once-secret, now-famous 1982 "Walk in the Woods" in Switzerland with Soviet negotiator Yuli Kvitsinsky that set the superpowers on the path toward a 1987 treaty banning intermediate-range Nuclear Weapons.

Nitze said he would be surprised if Gorbachev does not try to spring a new arms proposal on President George Bush during the shipboard summit off Malta in the Mediterranean.

"It's his stock-in-trade to come up with interesting initiatives that have some propaganda appeal," the diplomat said of Gorbachev, citing a new initiative on reducing conventional forces as a possibility.

"Mr Gorbachev needs so desperately to make progress in that field. He cannot possibly continue the type of military expenditures he has in the past. Where is he going to save money? The easiest place is the production of conventional forces."

**Nitze** was one of the key players in the 1986 summit in Reykjavik, Iceland, between Gorbachev and then President Ronald Reagan, a meeting that frightened the Western allies because it nearly led to an agreement on eliminating ballistic missiles, leaving in place Soviet numerical superiority in conventional arms in Europe.

### Failure

Despite the widely held view that Reykjavik was a failure, Nitze, who stayed up all night negotiating with his Soviet counterparts, insists that summit was a "great success" because it cleared the way for the intermediate-range nuclear forces agreement and resulted in progress on other issues.

But he urges Bush to use caution in his first summit with the dramatic Soviet leader, advising the president to review carefully any new proposal and "if there's some merit in it, let's buy those parts of it that move the ball forward. If there are items that are not acceptable, let's say no."

Nitze's official service in government ended with the Reagan administration, a career punctuated by milestones of recent history — the Marshall Plan, the Korean War, the Berlin Wall crisis, the Cuban missile crisis, Vietnam, the Salt treaties and more recent arms control negotiations.

A wiry, silver-haired grandson of German immigrants, he prefers to give credit to the people for whom he worked, such as former secretaries of state Dean Acheson, George Marshall and George Shultz, and he had this to say about his longevity in the rough and tumble world of Washington.

"Having been fired more often than anybody else in the US government, and hired more often, I've had the opportunity to go off and think more than others on the strategic, moral and philosophical aspects of foreign policy."

## TODAY IN HISTORY

1694 — Triennial bill becomes law in England, providing for new parliament to be elected every third year.

1808 — Madrid surrenders to Napoleon Bonaparte's French forces.

1810 — British capture Mauritius from French.

1912 — Armistice is signed between Turkey, Bulgaria, Serbia and Montenegro.

1944 — US forces cross Saar River in Germany in World War II.

1952 — UN General Assembly adopts India's proposal for Korean armistice.

1958 — Dutch businesses are nationalized in Indonesia.

1961 — United States deploys platoons of troops along border between East and West Berlin as East Germany begins strengthening Berlin Wall.

1962 — London is blanketed by one of worst fogs in years, and scores of people die of sulphur dioxide poisoning before fog lifts four days later.

1967 — Surgeons at Cape Town, South Africa, hospital report successful human heart transplant, said to be first of its kind.

1970 — British envoy James R. Cross is rescued after being held by Quebec terrorists in Canada for almost two months.

1971 — India declares state of emergency as Pakistani planes attack inside northwestern India in dispute over Kashmir.

1975 — Communists take control of Laos and declare end to 600-year-old monarchy.

1984 — About 200 people are reported dead and several thousand stricken after inhaling poisonous cyanide gas which leaked from Union Carbide insecticide factory in Central India.

1988 — Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, in first official act, calls for release of about 1,000 political prisoners and commutes all death sentences.

## Modern world's oldest political dynasty falls

# 'King' becomes prime minister

**NEW DELHI**, (AP): Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the mild-mannered poet and painter who engineered the fall of the modern world's oldest political dynasty, was born to be king.

Instead, he is India's new prime minister.

For more than two years, Singh stalked the dusty backroads of India, fiercely campaigning against corruption; he said had overwhelmed daily life and derailed effective government.

Wherever he went, he was cheered and embraced as the "Rajah Sahib," or "honoured king."

Even though he says he really did not want the job, Singh on Friday was chosen to lead the National Front, the opposition alliance that ousted Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and ended the legacy passed from Gandhi's grandfather and India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, and his mother and predecessor, Indira Gandhi.

The National Front and its tacit allies have staked their claim to forming the next government. And Singh, erstwhile king of the tiny northern region of Manda, will rule a much larger kingdom — a country of 880 million people.

The process to choose a leader was long, at times bitter and include serious challenges. But Singh said that is the way it should be.

"When India became independent, it became a democracy in name only," Singh said during the month-long campaign that preceded the Nov 22-26 elections.

"The government went to the Nehru-Gandhi family and it has remained a dynasty," he said. "The government won't belong to me. I will belong to the government and the people."

The 58-year-old Singh has played a part in Indian politics since the early 1970s. But few people really know who he is.

Political analysts say Singh changes his ideological colour so often and with such deftness that it has become almost impossible to put him in a definite category.

A man who jealousy guards his private life, Singh works hard and lives a simple life — driving around in a chugging, fume-belching Ambassador Sedan and wearing traditional white cotton tunic-pajama suits.

He does not project the commanding presence of India's former leaders and seems to disappear in the crowds that swarm around him.

But image is not important, he said.

"I have always taken the stand that we have to shift from personal appeal to issues. That is the way a democracy matures," he said.

When Singh was 5, his biological father, the Rajah of Daima, gave him to the childless Rajah of Manda. He grew up in one of the most palatial outposts in northern Uttar Pradesh state but childhood was lonely.

Not allowed to see his real family for years, the shy young boy turned to poetry and painting.

After his adoptive father died six years later, a bitter legal battle ensued over the estate and Singh was escorted everywhere — even to school — by armed guards.

He eventually inherited the estate, though the psychological effects took their toll, he said.

**Control**

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1971 — India declares state of emergency as Pakistani planes attack inside northwestern India in dispute over Kashmir.

1975 — Communists take control of Laos and declare end to 600-year-old monarchy.

1984 — About 200 people are reported dead and several thousand stricken after inhaling poisonous cyanide gas which leaked from Union Carbide insecticide factory in Central India.

1988 — Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, in first official act, calls for release of about 1,000 political prisoners and commutes all death sentences.



Prime Minister V.P. Singh

"But it gives one a lot of inner strength. It is something you can value more than anything else. Then you can suffer anything because you have got that," he said.

Singh gave away to untouchables his Manda kingdom long before Indira Gandhi outlawed royal titles in 1971.

Singh entered politics and became a loyal member of the Congress Party, handpicked and groomed for public service by Indira Gandhi.

He eventually inherited the estate, though the psychological effects took their toll, he said.

## Gorbachev's agenda for superpower summit

# Searching for clues to US intentions



Mikhail Gorbachev

goods as computers. The Soviets also are moving to liberalize emigration of Jews and others in an effort to gain "most-favoured nation" trading status with the United States.

Predictable superpower relations.

Beset with a teetering state-run economy, a bewildering array of ethnic disputes and the volatile political change throughout the East bloc, the Soviets look to US-Soviet relations for stability. In his Nov 23 speech, Bush called himself a supporter of perestroika, but the Soviets want him to add substance.

The Soviet ideal, says Kremenyuk, would be a "timetable" fixing goals for the Geneva talks on strategic weapons cuts, the Vienna negotiations on conventional arms in Europe and so on. The Soviets

have never bought Bush's description of the Malta meeting as an informal get-together, and want to return to Moscow with a superpower agenda, at least for the near term.

Help with the economy.

Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze flushed with anger when asked whether the summit was called so the Kremlin could seek US aid for its shortage-plagued economy. "It offends our national pride," he said. Pride or not, the Soviets want US expertise, computers and management techniques.

Well into the fifth year of reforms, Soviets still must line up to buy rationed goods like meat and butter, and consumer grumbling is louder. Shevardnadze says the Soviets want "mutually beneficial economic and trade co-operation." But even if Bush agrees to loosen controls on high-tech exports and upgrade the Soviets' trading status, it's uncertain how much they could produce that the West would want to buy.

Show who's boss.

After 4-1/2 years of Gorbachev's rule, Washington is debating whether he and his reform campaign can survive. US perceptions of the Soviets are now fused with the physical presence of the 58-year-old Soviet leader, so he must demonstrate he remains in command despite ethnic unrest that has killed 300 people, crippling strikes and increasingly vocal nostalgia for a "strong hand" like Josef Stalin. In the Soviet view, Gorbachev's eclipse or disappearance would cause the United States to question achievements in superpower relations since he came to power in 1985.

Give a push to disarmament.

The centrepiece of past summits, arms control is now overshadowed by the momentous changes in Eastern Europe. For Soviets, however, weapons cuts are tangible proof of Gorbachev's "new thinking" is paying off. The Soviets have cleared the way for progress by dropping their condition that Washington agree not to deploy space-based missile defenses, and now are hinting Malta could break remaining logjams. Kremenyuk said the Soviets want the 30 percent to 50 percent cuts in superpower arsenals envisaged by the proposed strategic arms reduction treaty, plus a cooling-off of regional conflicts like Afghanistan, so they can shift more resources to the civilian economy. Take measure of Bush.

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# Mideast won't get prominence at Malta summit

KUWAIT, Dec 2. (AP): Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said he did not believe the Middle East would figure prominently on the agenda of the US-Soviet summit, a newspaper reported today.

Mubarak also dropped hints that if Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir changed his present hard-line stance on peace talks, it could lead to a Middle East visit by US President George Bush.

"The Middle East will not be among the

priorities of the Bush-Gorbachev summit's agenda," he told a Kuwaiti Arabic daily in an interview.

The Middle East problem would impose itself on a superpower agenda "only when the concerned parties in the region assume a serious approach in resolving their problems," Mubarak added.

Mubarak said Israel was "manoeuvring" in response to the peace plan proposed by US Secretary

of State James Baker, which suggests an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, because it was under pressure from world public opinion to drop its adamant refusal to deal with the PLO.

Reiterating his view that he would not meet with Israeli prime minister unless there were a breakthrough, Mubarak said:

"I am not the only one to think that way. President Bush, for instance, said before

assumed the presidency that he was prepared to come to the area if this helped solve the problem."

"In the same spirit, I took the initiative of suggesting a meeting with Shamir, but he has hastened to declare his famous no's to the international peace conference and to the principle of land for peace," he added.

"If Shamir is genuinely interested in a serious meeting, then it should be prepared and structured

to prove fruitful and serve the cause of peace," Mubarak said.

"What we do not want is a pure and simple meeting for Israel to tell the world later that it is trying to solve the problem."

The Egyptian leader also urged the PLO to accept the Baker plan, which it has not explicitly done so far because it is not satisfied that it would lead to an independent Palestinian state.

Libya watched the superpower summit today, with indignation and suspicion that it might be among the losers in the new world order.

Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi has denounced plans to hold the meeting on two US and Soviet warships, recalling wartime summits at which the great powers divided the world into zones of influence.

## E. Germany in quandary

### Politburo member quits

EAST BERLIN, Dec 2. (Agencies): In a further blow to the embattled East German Communist Party, the youngest member of its ruling politburo said today he was resigning.

Hans-Joachim Willerding, a candidate or non-voting member of the 13-member politburo, told the official ADN news agency it was no longer possible for him to function credibly as part of the leadership.

Willerding, 37, was central committee secretary for international affairs, an exceptionally powerful post for such a young official.

His resignation followed a tumultuous parliamentary session yesterday, when lawmakers disclosed that top party officials had taken bribes, indulged themselves with luxuries at state expense and stashed away more than 100 billion marks (\$54 billion) in Swiss bank accounts.

Willerding called for swift and thorough action against those guilty of misusing their authority.

The central committee meets tomorrow and more resignations could follow.

#### Concern

Willerding told ADN in a statement his main concern was that the party work out a radically new policy programme at its congress in two weeks, concentrating on social democratic and communist traditions.

Willerding said in a long interview with the daily Berlin Zeitung today that East Germany's political future must be learned from the Soviet Union's reform process had been the "saddest chapter in our party history."

He said the stubbornness of the old leadership under Erich Honecker had brought East Germany to the brink of disaster and a sell-out through a mass exodus to the West of disgruntled citizens.

East Germany's parliament abolished the Communist Party's 40-year guaranteed monopoly on power yesterday then made emotional attacks against leaders accused of hiding money in Swiss bank accounts.

In other developments, a city council demanded the resignation of Communist Party Chief Egon Krenz, and opposition groups called a two-hour general strike next week.

Parliament also passed a resolution regretting East Germany's decision to join the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia that crushed the short-lived "Prague Spring" of reforms.

The resolution offered apologies to the people of Czechoslovakia and expressed solidarity with the process of reforms going on in the neighbouring country. Czechoslovakia's parliament assumed the communists' leading role on Wednesday.

Legislators gasped and shook their heads in disbelief yesterday.

## Military sale

### Soviet missile equipment

MOSCOW, Dec 2. (AP): For sale: used truck, 12-wheel, with trailer. Army green. Maximum speed 40 km/h (25 miles) per hour, weight 28,000 kgs (62,000 pounds). Previously used for hauling nuclear missiles. Minimum price: \$8,000 roubles (\$49,600) as is.

As US President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev prepared for their shipboard summit in Malta, the Soviet military was trying to recoup a little of the money it invested in the cold war.

Yesterday, the Ministry of Defense and several semi-public organisations put on sale in Moscow military support equipment for the medium-range nuclear missiles destroyed under the 1987 US-Soviet agreement.

It is part of the Soviet drive to reorient its economy from the military to domestic needs, something that Gorbachev and Bush are likely to discuss as well.

Items as small as three-rouble (\$1.86) rolls of cable and as big as the monster 12-wheel trailer truck were packed into an exhibition hall in Moscow's northeast Sokolniki Park,

as the head of a committee investigating alleged power abuses and personal enrichment disclosed that billions of marks (dollars) had been squandered on luxuries for senior communists or stashed away in Swiss bank accounts.

Krenz boldly told the deputies who shouted for justice and compensation that his party was responsible for the severe problems of the national economy and the excesses indulged in by ousted leader Erich Honecker and his top aides.

Krenz assured the 500-member People's Chamber that "such behaviour will never be repeated," and denied that he personally has ever enjoyed the hedonistic lifestyle reported to have been created at state expense for his predecessors.

#### Scapgoats

Premier Hans Modrow promised "appropriate consequences" for those found guilty of enriching themselves at public expense, but like Krenz, he appealed for reason and caution to avoid a destructive search for scapegoats.

The unexpectedly sudden vote to strip the communists of their constitutional mandate to rule, and the shocking revelations of power abuses transformed the normally rubber-stamp session into a riveting debate that ended only late yesterday.

Meanwhile, the city council of Plauen called for Krenz's resignation over his alleged role in rigging municipal elections results this summer that gave the communists an overwhelming majority.

The Karl-Marx-Stadt chapter of New Forum, the largest opposition movement, called for a two-hour general strike on Dec 6 to press demands for quicker reforms and speedy punishment of those guilty of corruption.

The strike call also demands a separation of party and state functions, an open economy, abolition of party cells in factories and disbanding of the party's paramilitary workers militia.

But later yesterday in East Berlin, New Forum leader Baerbel Bohley resisted the call to strike, although she said she supports the demands.

The 52-year-old Krenz is facing growing challenges to his leadership from both the opposition and his own party because of his longtime association with the Honecker leadership.

Krenz replaced Honecker on Oct 18.

■ Chancellor Helmut Kohl, meeting key US senators on the eve of an important superpower summit, assured them West Germany would not swap its NATO commitment for German reunification, the group's leader said yesterday.

"He (the chancellor) strongly affirmed under no circumstances would a reunified Germany be neutral," said US Sen. Richard G. Lugar, head of the visiting delegation.

An opinion poll published by the official CTK news agency today showed that 90 per cent of people questioned favoured the abolition of guaranteed communist rights.

It said 30 percent of the population supported Civic Forum with the figure rising to 58 per cent in Prague where one demonstration last weekend attracted 750,000 people. No indication was given of the size of support for the party.



Mahorita grilled

Vasil Mahorita, politburo member of the Czechoslovakian Communist Party, wiped sweat from his brow during a press conference. Mahorita announced the Communist Party's decision to repudiate Soviet-led Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Prague warned of chaos

PRAGUE, Dec 2. (Reuters): Czechoslovakia's pro-democracy opposition warned the ruling Communist Party today that the country would slide into chaos if promised reforms were delayed.

Dissident playwright Vaclav Havel, a leader of the Civic Forum opposition movement, spoke as Prime Minister Ladislav Adamec completed the formation of a new government, including non-communists which is expected to be announced tomorrow.

Havel told the Communist Party's official newspaper Rude Pravo: "The government must act swiftly and carry out certain things and not just declare its readiness to do them."

He added: "Any delays could turn not only against us, that is the Civic Forum, but against the government and society as a whole. It would mean that we would all lose control of the situation."

Diplomats said Havel appeared to be warning the authorities not to try to play for time now that Civic Forum had suspended street protests.

Sunday is the deadline set in an opposition ultimatum for the announcement of the government.

Civic Forum has given Adamec until the end of December to map out a programme of reform, including the holding of free elections, or resign.

The demonstrations which started on Nov 17 forced the Communist Party this week to surrender its monopoly of political power and open up the government.

The appearance of an interview with Havel in Rude Pravo was itself a sign of the extent of communist concessions to the opposition.

Before the protest campaign, Havel was a banned person whose works have rarely been seen in Czechoslovakia and who has been frequently jailed for his opposition activity.

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Auditoriums were filled with the people of Czechoslovakia and the world.

Elizabeth Taylor waves to admirers at the benefit gala. (Reuters wirephoto)

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■ American and Soviet defence attaches presented a Greek sculptor with fragments of nuclear missiles to be forged into two statues symbolising peace.

Up-to-date figures from France brought the country's total number of cases to 8,025, second only to the United States. Brazil has reported 7,787 cases and Uganda, which has not revised its statistics since April, reported 7,375 cases.

Elizabeth Taylor waves to admirers at the benefit gala. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Bush, Gorby emphasise on harmony in first talks

### Storm in Mediterranean forces cancellation of scheduled meeting

MARSAXLOKK BAY, Malta, Dec 2. (AP): US President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev spent five hours together in their first summit talks today, and the White House said both men emphasised co-operation in a "productive" session.

The first meeting of the two-day shipboard summit took place on the Maxim Gorky, a Soviet luxury liner, after stormy weather forced cancellation of plans to meet aboard a smaller Soviet warship.

Bush returned to his headquarters on the USS Belknap following the initial sessions.

The White House said an afternoon round of talks were put on hold because of the bad weather, which kept Bush from immediately leaving the Belknap.

"The discussion ranged from the economic situation in Eastern Europe to arms control and Central America," it said. "Chairman Gorbachev spoke at length of perestroika and the goals of his reform programme."

The statement said Bush "emphasised his support for the success of perestroika" and "forth his ideas as a broad framework for actions that would help the two nations work together for peace and prosperity."

The White House said the opening talks included a "very productive, informal and substantive meeting."

The meetings were sparked by a spirit of forward-looking cooperation during these increasingly changing times," it said.

"President Bush spoke for more than an hour to open the meeting, laying out more than a dozen ideas for economic and political progress in US-Soviet relations," the statement said.

"Chairman Gorbachev spoke at length of perestroika and the goals of his reform programme," it said.

There was no immediate Soviet comment on the first session. US Secretary of State James Baker had called the meeting an "excellent beginning."

Arms control, East-West trade and the dramatic democratic reforms sweeping Eastern Europe were expected to dominate the agenda for the Bush-Gorbachev talks, which both leaders said they hoped would strengthen the prospects for world peace and European unity.

Senior Soviet officials said Gorbachev wants the summit to produce a timetable for completing US-Soviet treaties on reducing strategic nuclear weapons, conventional forces in Central Europe and chemical weapons.

The officials, who spoke only on condition of not being identified, said Gorbachev would convene a meeting of Warsaw Pact leaders in Moscow on Monday to discuss the results of the two-day summit. Bush will spend Monday briefing Allied leaders at Nato headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

Shipboard ceremonies officially opening the summit were cancelled because of the inclement weather.

Bush and Gorbachev shook hands aboard the white Soviet passenger cruise ship, which is docked at a pier in Marsaxlokk Bay off Malta's rocky southeastern coast. The US President travelled by launch from the Belknap, his summit residence.

Gorbachev joked that the strong winds, gusting to 48 miles per hour (77 km per hour), were part of a Soviet effort to destroy the US Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean.

"Let's go to work," Bush was overheard saying as they went inside to begin their discussions.

■ American and Soviet defence attaches presented a Greek sculptor with fragments of nuclear missiles to be forged into two statues symbolising peace.

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Elizabeth Taylor waves to admirers at the benefit gala. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Gorby goes slow on Germany

MILAN, Italy, Dec 2. (Reuters): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said yesterday German reunification should not be pushed at the moment but appeared to admit its eventual possibility, saying: "History will decide."

At a news conference winding up a three-day visit to Italy, Gorbachev also went some way towards condemning the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia, terming Moscow's reaction to the "Prague Spring" as "not quite appropriate."

The Kremlin chief said recent moves by East Germany towards Western-style democracy opened the way to greater cooperation with the West, but the peoples of both German states still had the right to decide their future.

"I think that today ... to pose the problem (of reunification) on this level, to say that it is an international political problem ... does not seem to me quite right," Gorbachev told a questioner.

The Soviet leader's remarks were seen as only a mild rebuke to West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who last week proposed a federation with East Germany as a first step towards eventual reunification as part of a new European order.

For the first session, Bush and Gorbachev gathered with their entourages in the card room of the liner, each sitting in deep captain's chairs.

A White House statement said Bush and Gorbachev talked "almost continuously" for nearly five hours, including a session with aides, a session with only notetakers and continued discussion over lunch.

The President and his Soviet counterpart "recognised that economic and political challenges were ahead for Eastern Europe, and vowed to consider the opportunities presented with sensitivity and firm initiative," said the statement issued by White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater.



Gorky prior to their first summit meeting at Marsaxlokk Bay, Malta. (Reuters wirephoto)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Russia appeals to Azerbaijan: The Soviet Union's Russian federation has appealed to Azerbaijan to lift a renewed railway blockade against neighbouring Armenia, the Sovetskaya Rossiya newspaper reported today.

The Popular Front, a political movement with a huge following in Azerbaijan, re-imposed the blockade this week to back demands that Armenia give up its claims to the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh.

More than 120 people have died since February 1988 in ethnic clashes over the territory, which is part of Azerbaijan but has a predominantly Armenian population demanding unity with Armenia. (Reuters)

Gorbachev warns: President Mikhail Gorbachev said in a message delivered yesterday

# Traffic awareness in schools vital: Agha

## Drivers warned to abide by code

KUWAIT in a determined bid to reduce road accidents and the related increase in traffic deaths is exerting every effort to stress and highlight the importance of imparting traffic awareness at all levels of society, according to a senior Kuwaiti traffic official.

Speaking to a local daily, Col. Ahmad Abbas Agha, director of the Traffic Sentence Enforcement Department called for the introduction of a special subject on traffic education into the Ministry of Education's general curricula for the elementary and secondary levels. He recommended tailoring such curricula along the guidelines used in advanced countries.

The official called on all drivers to strictly abide by the traffic code and respect speed limits established by the law. He warned drivers against passing red-light signals — which often are the cause of death and other serious forms of injuries to humans and considerable monetary and material damage.

Disclosing figures of traffic violations, Agha said that the total number of traffic sentences enforced in 1988 amounted to over 50,000 — of which 560 were jail terms. Of this number 23,013 were sentences on traffic violations and the rest of accidents. He commented that the percentage of these sentences is comparatively high in relation to the number of drivers in Kuwait.

Drivers in Kuwait belong to 120 different nationalities who consequently have their own understanding of the traffic concept and related regulations. This accounts for the different driving patterns seen in Kuwait

and result in continued violations of traffic regulations, Agha said.

The department executes its duties in the decentralised mode which contributes to speeding up the settlement of traffic related issues and following the introduction of computers and upgrading of the work performance at the department, clients are now easily able to process their transactions.

### Penalties

Speeding through a red signal is considered a serious traffic violation which would be punished by either jail term or a fine not more than one month or a fine of KD50. This judicial sentence could also be associated with the withdrawal of driver's licence, the vehicle's registration or both, Agha said.

He added that traffic violations such as overspeeding, running through a red signal, drunken driving, careless driving etc. all would be referred to the court. Failure by the people involved to attend court sessions always led to firmer rulings against them in absentia, whereas their presence could give them the chance to defend themselves and explain their circumstances at the time of the traffic violation.

Agha said that drivers must commit themselves to drive within the speed limit and overspeeding would be punished by either a one-month jail term or a KD50 fine besides the withdrawal of the licence and car registration. Penalties need to be stringent to avoid the danger involved in overspeeding whether to innocent people or

car collisions, overturning or crashing.

He added that the speed limit on motorways did not exceed 120 kmph while on internal roads it ranged between 60 to 80 kmph depending on the traffic flow.

Overspeeding drivers would be brought under control by increasing the number of highway patrol vehicles which would chase the violators and issue tickets. The official called on the information media to step up its contribution to raising public traffic awareness by illustrating the dangers involved in violating traffic regulations and ensure safety for road-users, the official said.

He stressed the importance of driving in full respect of the enforced traffic code as an ethical co-operation with the traffic police, since driving was defined as an art with taste and ethics. Drivers must always concentrate on the road and never let themselves be diverted while driving to ensure their safety and that of pedestrians or other cars, the director said.

**Jeopardy**

He added that some young drivers derived pleasure from violating traffic regulations by overspeeding, racing, or driving carelessly jeopardising in the process their lives and that of others. This group of drivers need to understand that the care is a means and not an end. Used reasonably it would serve the purpose for which it was made, otherwise it would turn into a death machine that would only leave behind a trail of death and sadness.

## Training at Faculty of Commerce begins

THE training committee at the Faculty of Commerce, Economics and Political Sciences has started its second training programme for the first term of 1989/90. This will last till June 6, 1990.

The programme supervisor, Dr Adnan Al Sultan, speaking on the occasion, expressed the committee's firm belief that the faculty had developed these training programmes in various fields of administrative sciences to meet the requirements and demand of both the private and public sector.

He added that the committee also hoped to keep pace with recent developments, monitor science's progress and identify the actual labour market demand.

He said that the training programmes had courses in financial analysis, to be held from Dec 2-20, three days a week, another for time-keeping by the director to be held from Dec 2-5, a third in applications of computer-aided qualitative financial analysis using the Lotus programme to be held from Dec 9-27 the fourth in the ready package applications for decision-making support system to be held from 3-31 March, the fifth in performance of feasibility studies and project evaluation to be held from March 4-22, the sixth in business administration and computer-aided accounting applications to be held from May 5 to 23.

On Unido and the Arabian Gulf states, Siazon said that the organisation is at present working to expand co-operation with these countries, particularly with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

He added that Saudi Arabia and Saudi banks and national establishments finance the projects which receive Unido technical expertise, and said the organisation receives financial benefits from such co-operation.

He also said that the organisation is holding talks with the Algerian government to open a regional bureau in Algiers to coordinate Unido projects in the Arab Maghreb states.

# Policies to be evaluated at GCC summit

## Focus on international developments: Bishara

RIYADH, Dec 2, (QNA): The GCC Secretary-General Abdullah Yaqoub Bishara has stressed the importance of issues on the agenda of the 10th GCC summit to be held in Muscat on Dec 18.

Speaking to the Qatar News Agency the officials said that the summit would be devoted to evaluating GCC achievements over the past period and to draw up working policies for the stages to come.

He added that the 10th GCC summit strategy would focus on international developments on various levels and on the

latest events in the Arab world in general and in the Gulf region in particular.

Elucidating, he said that the summit would study the results of the superpower summit between the US President and his Soviet counterpart, and its effects on the international and regional spheres, as well as developments of the Palestinian question for further support of the valiant Palestinian intifada all the way through until victory was achieved.

Discussion at the summit would also discuss the latest events in Lebanon in the

light of the results of efforts exerted by the tripartite Arab committee, Bishara said.

He also said that discussion at the summit would deal with the situation in the Gulf region and efforts aimed at establishing durable and lasting peace in the area and end the state of war between the two Muslim countries Iraq and Iran by means of a fair decision acceptable to both parties.

Other issues to be discussed at the summit would be ways to further strengthen GCC progress to foster the achievements

so far made in the various economic fields.

The GCC march had no time schedule to abide by, but what seemed difficult to achieve today would be easier to achieve tomorrow, Bishara commented and added that a statement would be issued at the summit meetings outlining the various issues tackled in the political, economic and social spheres. Further the GCC leaders would be reviewing a comprehensive report of the various achievements made at the GCC level in various fields Bishara said.

## Health situation excellent: Awadi

KUWAIT, Dec 2, (Kuna): Planning Minister and Acting Health Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi has affirmed that the health situation in Kuwait is excellent.

In an interview with a local daily, Awadi said that environmental studies are of great importance toward pinpointing direct causes of the spread of diseases and evaluating prevention activities.

He noted that anti-disease campaigns have met with great success and a number of diseases were contained thanks to efficient combatting methods.

Awadi stressed that the ministry is always keen to cut down the number of fatalities resulting from affliction with a contagious disease.

He added that illnesses that can be prevented through vaccination are now under total control and the epidemic waves of previous years no longer exist.

Awadi indicated that afflictions with contagious diseases in 1988 were in ninth place among causes of death.

He said that children mortality rate last year was estimated at 16.3 for each 1,000 births, compared to 16.8 in 1987.

He also pointed out that 520 cases of food poisoning, 394 cases of Brucellosis and three cases of typhus were reported during 1988.

Malaria cases reported were 14,239 in the same year. Awadi said that 179 cases of food poisoning reported last year were in Fleet Al Salyoukh, 46 cases in Umm Al Hanan and 43 cases in Riqqa area.

The ministry has reported 163 cases of whooping cough last year. The ministry increased its control on measles and only 70 cases were reported last year. The ministry also reported 3773 cases of diarrhoea with a percentage of 192.65 per 100,000 people.

He added that most of the Brucellosis cases were caused by drinking unpasteurised milk.

Awadi, last week met with a delegation of Union of Importers of Drugs headed by Naser Al Hajri.



Crime Investigation course

The third course on crime investigation was opened yesterday at the Non-Commissioned Officers Institute at the Police Academy. The opening was attended by Lieut Col Bader Al Eidan, the assistant director of the Non-Commissioned Officers Institute, and a number of other officers.

## Shuwaikh Industrial Area to be completely re-arranged

By Jamal Ameen

THE director of the Planning Department at Kuwait Municipality Mosa Al Sarraf has said that the re-arrangement of the Shuwaikh Industrial Area will be implemented through the third option already approved by the Municipal Affairs Committee and the Council of Ministers.

Speaking to a local daily, the official said that the solution to the Shuwaikh Industrial Area, which has been called the industrial-commercial vocational area, was not an easy one and could not be achieved overnight but demanded painstaking planning and work.

The proposed solution to ease off the pressure on this area was to provide other alternative areas to meet the needs of inhabitants by setting up vocational, industrial and commercial areas in different places in the country. These areas have been identified as Abu Halifa, Mangaf, Qurain, Massebach, Ardiya, Jabra and Mina'Abdullah. Further a number of decisions were, currently, being studied by the Municipal Affairs Committee in this connection before taking appropriate decisions, Sarraf said.

He added that there is a plan by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry aiming to provide some vocational and other simple services in different residential areas to meet the daily service requirements of the inhabitants such as electrical services for cars and homes. Thus, it would relieve pressure and lessen crowds from the industrial and vocational quarters in the country.

Sarraf said that the planning process in Kuwait is progressing satisfactorily in a manner becoming of Kuwait as a developing country which is associated with the progress of urbanisation. These are being implemented within the framework of the Kuwait Masterplan, the official commented.

He said that the ministries involved in the rearrangement of the Shuwaikh Industrial Area were

currently conducting consultancy studies to identify the requirements of these areas and determine the best ways to meet them. Some of these ministries need more time to review the administrative rules and regulations to comply fully with the new regulations.

To solve all problems of the Shuwaikh Industrial Area is not an easy process, and it would take long time as radical changes were required and no expedient temporary measures could do.

He added that the solution to the problems of Shuwaikh area must be linked to the solutions of other similar problems in different other areas, as Shuwaikh served more than half the population in Kuwait.

The relocation of the garages and service shops in the Jabra Industrial Area to different areas would resolve negatively on the area. Accordingly, the Municipal Affairs Committee had decided to retain these services in place and suitable alternatives have been established.

He said that there were two industrial and vocational projects planned for the Jabra area. One in Sulaihiya, where work had already been completed and the project has been operational for six months. The other is still under construction in Jabra, where plots of land would be set up to be used to establish commercial businesses as decided by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

He said that Sabhan is a purely industrial area, and that it could not be used to provide any professional or vocational services, nor would it be possible to expand the area as its location is close to areas owned by ministries.

The planning process usually focussed on high investment areas where the building and urbanisation percentage is high, as also population density. This results in the expansion of health, educational and other public service facilities in the areas, Sarraf said.

## Diverse pricing structure at co-ops

### Unified profit policy

ALL commodities priced by the Co-operative Societies Union, or commodities which bear the trade mark of the union in addition to commodities that receive subsidies have unified prices at all co-operative sources, according to a senior union official.

Abdul Latif Al Kharazza general director of the Co-operative Societies Union speaking on the issue disclosed that all commodities are subject to the unified profit rate policy based on the union's keenness in unifying prices of commodities at all co-operatives.

In an interview with a local daily, the official cited various reasons for a difference in prices being manifested at various societies. Mainly, this occurs when new commodities are marketed for the first time at specific co-operative societies during which trial-run period the investment percentage is added to the price.

However, Kharazza said that there are over 6,000 varieties of commodities that are unified in prices among all co-operative societies. These commodities include most foodstuffs and other consumables. Other

unified prices of commodities include commodities supported by the government like infant milk, and other items which are governed by ration cards and other products of government companies.

Regarding future plans for the unification of prices at co-operatives, Kharazza stated that inspectors methodically conduct checks on prices of items at co-operatives. A special inspection staff has been formed by the union to follow up the pricing schedule at different co-operatives and ensure that the pricing structure is strictly adhered to, the official said.

The operational system implemented at co-operative societies is accurate and prevents any cheating incidents which may be attempted by importers. Each market provides its own team in order to follow up and approve incoming commodities, Kharazza said.

TO highlight the increase in prices of commodities — particularly children's clothing, a local daily interviewed a number of merchants and customers in the local market.

The general consensus among merchants is that prices are extremely reasonable and their profits are negligible due to the world-wide recession.

Najim Jinwangi, a clothing shop owner said that he deals with clothes imported from Spain and though the quality is good, prices are quite cheap. He explained that his profit margin on each piece of clothing he sells does not exceed half a dinar.

Another merchant, Ghaleb Al Hajri said that due to the slump prevailing in the clothing market, he finds it quite difficult to pay the shop rents which have increased during the past few years. Replying to a question as to the reasons for the high prices of children's clothing, Hajri said that local agents were increasing the prices.

He went on to state that he had been working in

## Low level of KU arts graduates acknowledged

such a division were not achieved.

He said there were 20 teaching staff, including 13 Kuwaitis.

He said the faculty had agreed to establish a new division at the department for archaeology.

He confirmed that the number of teachers at the department was commensurate with the number of students and the department was facing no shortage in this connection.

Replies to a question, he said that the department had no higher studies division, as the conditions required for establishing

such a division were not achieved.

He criticised the spread of the popular market — particularly in the model areas such as Salimiyah. He said that the goods sold in these markets are of poor quality.

Speaking of an increase in prices of clothing imported from Turkey, he said that local agents had increased the prices and retail merchants had no alternative, but to increase prices accordingly.

Saleh Idris, a merchant with several decades of experience said that when an item is purchased cheaply, it ultimately becomes expensive. This is due to the fact that a cheap item lacks quality, and after a single wash demonstrates the value of money paid for the "miserable looking piece of clothing."

Commenting on the Ministry of Commerce and Industry's Consumer Protection Department's

decision obliging merchants to fix prices of each item displayed in the showcases, he said that this decision is not in favour of the merchants. The customer is also not benefitted as he has to purchase an item at a fixed price — without his being in a position to ascertain its quality. Clothing coming from countries like France, Germany or the UK are undoubtedly of quality and consequently cost much more than comparative clothing coming from Third-World countries, he said. The move of the ministry is also designed to create healthy competition among merchants, he added.

Asked to reply to the accusation that rich people complain that prices of quality clothes in Kuwait are extremely high, Idris said that this section of society barely purchased any items from the local market as they continually travelled abroad and thus the majority of their purchases of luxury clothes and accessories were purchased directly from countries

they visited.

He said that many children's shops were closed due to bankruptcy in view of the slump phenomenon prevailing in the market. He added that in 37 years as a dealer in clothes, he had not witnessed such a drastic drop in sales. He attributed this drop to the Manakh crisis, the Iran-Iraq war, the drop in the price of oil and the reduced oil production and a state of insecurity — both for the citizen and the expatriate.

He added that in his capacity as a merchant and local agent for clothing, he had witnessed that prices were increased every year by 15 per cent directly by the manufacturers. He denied that merchants were cheating customers and clarified that all imports were conducted in accordance with documents that had been verified by the customs departments.

Specifically, he said that customers had found the authority to defend their causes, but lamented that the merchants had no one to protect their rights.

## Apparel business not lucrative: traders bemoan slump

TO highlight the increase in prices of commodities — particularly children's clothing, a local daily interviewed a number of merchants and customers in the local market.

The general consensus among merchants is that prices are extremely reasonable and their profits are negligible due to the world-wide recession.

Najim Jinwangi, a clothing shop owner said that he deals with clothes imported from Spain and though the quality is good, prices are quite cheap. He explained that his profit margin on each piece of clothing he sells does not exceed half a dinar.

Another merchant, Gh

# New PAAET plan to lay emphasis on private sector

## Authority to provide technical manpower

**DEPUTY** Director General of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Hmoud Fahed Al Modhaif announced that the forthcoming five-year plan of the authority will lay emphasis on the private sector. He stressed that the issue of Kuwaitisation will be difficult to achieve within a year or two adding that replacing expatriate manpower with national manpower requires more time.

Interviewed by a local daily, he indicated that presently the Kuwaiti force represents 27 per cent of the

total local manpower. However, he commented that it is possible to increase the national manpower percentage up to 50 per cent by the end of the five-year plan.

Modhaif said that he does not support the idea of building an applied university for the time being. He said that the manpower market has large number of university graduates but lacks technicians and labourers.

He stated that Kuwait University took an effective part in changing students' directions with regards to arts specialities and is encouraging

students towards joining scientific specialities. He pointed out that students at the authority's Fundamental Education College joined the college on their own initiative. However, students at other colleges did not have any alternative, but to join the authority.

Modhaif explained that the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training has graduated a total of 18,000 to 20,000 students since its establishment. He indicated that the number of graduates is almost identical to the number of university

graduates, even though Kuwait University was established 10 years before the authority.

With respect to the most important features of the upcoming five-year plan for the authority, Modhaif stated that it includes establishing new buildings, maintaining current buildings and the establishment of a new complex located at the grounds of the Industrial College. He indicated that the new complex will include four colleges, four training centres and the authority diwan. He added that colleges and institutes were originally

established at old buildings and pointed out that the old building only has a limited capacity despite the vast increase in the number of students during the past few years.

The authority, in the past suffered from two main problems, namely the limited area and the supply process. Therefore a special plan was put for the next five years to maintain the present buildings and to establish the new complex building at the grounds of the Industrial College.

On the issue of providing the country with manpower and the enhancement of educational levels, he stressed that the issue of Kuwaitisation requires more than one five year plan to achieve balance, and Kuwaitisation of posts.

He expressed optimism at the authority's plans in the Kuwaitisation process and said that the authority will have clear accomplishments in the manpower market in the future.

Regarding taking part in strengthening the role of women workers in the manpower market, he indicated that the main problem lies in the fact that some female students refuse to join

particular specialities. Most female students place higher interests in joining the Fundamental Education College at the authority. The official said and commented that this may be referred to the situation in the Kuwaiti society which does not accept both men and women together in the same job. He hoped that female students will extend their role into other specialities like nursing and health sciences. Society views towards scientific certificates will not change unless government changed its view towards it. Modhaif commented.

### Islamic fund

## Kuwait contributes \$6 million

**JEDDAH**, Dec 2, (Kuna): The Secretariat General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference today announced that Kuwait has contributed an amount of SR9,375,000 equivalent to US\$2,500,000 in favour of the Islamic Solidarity Fund, which brings the total of the amounts paid by Kuwait to SR22,500,000 equivalent to \$6,000,000.

Therefore, Kuwait has fully honoured its pledges of contributions for the funds as well as for its Waqf.

In this respect, the secretariat general expressed its sincere appreciation to HH the Amir of Kuwait, and current chairman of the OIC for this gesture which is a testimony of His Highness' commitments towards the attainment of the objectives enshrined in the charter of the OIC.

The Islamic Solidarity Fund was established by the second Islamic summit held in Lahore; Pakistan in 1974.

Moreover, the fund undertakes any action that is likely to raise the standard of Muslims throughout the world in all aspects of life.

It also encourages scientific and technological research, contributes to alleviate the effects of crises, natural catastrophes and disasters and endeavours for the propagation of Islamic Da'wa.

Furthermore, it financially supports religious, cultural and social communities; promotes the protection of Muslim youth and contributes to the building of mosques, schools, hospitals and clinics.

Thus, the secretariat general calls upon the other donor countries to give generous donations for the fund with a view to strengthen its resources and enable it to realise the noble objectives for which it was established.

### Aids seminar

**KUWAIT**, Dec 2, (Kuna): Planning Minister and Acting Health Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi inaugurates at the medicine faculty tomorrow a training seminar on social and psychological awareness for Aids victims.

The seminar targets spreading awareness on physical needs of Aids victims and those worrying about contracting the fatal disease.

The seminar also targets supplying participants with advanced information on and means of contracting the Aids virus in addition to methods of prevention.



Mubarak receives Sheik Salem

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak met Kuwaiti Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah at the Presidential Palace in Cairo yesterday. Sheikh Salem is in Cairo with other Arab counterparts to attend a three-day conference to discuss a joint Arab strategy to combat drugs and terrorism.

## Kuwait calls for scientific strategy to assist development

### Technology conference opens

**KUWAIT**, Dec 2, (Kuna): Kuwait has called for working out a scientific strategy to assist the Islamic countries in their drive for technological development.

Addressing the opening session of the conference on new technologies and the development of the Muslim world on behalf of His Highness the Amir of Kuwait, Sheik Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, Higher Education Minister Ali Abdulla Al Shemani underscored that no civilised achievement could be realised without making use of science and technology.

"Also scientific awareness can not become a national phenomenon unless we manage to link it with the legacy and genuine civilisation of our Islamic nation to enable it to bail out of its isolation and contribute to contemporary scientific works," Shamalan told the conference.

He underlined that the Islamic countries had suffered a great deal from their scientific and technological backwardness, a matter that led foreign countries to control their capabilities and block their advancement.

#### Plan

"Therefore, as Muslims, we have to lay down a scientific plan beside our economic, social and cultural ones to assist in preparing the effective power needed for civilised progress," he stressed.

Shamalan saluted HH the Amir for patronising the conference in his capacity as chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC). He said in that capacity the Amir had made his historical initiative at the United Nations for dropping loans interests and cancelling some of the foreign loans on the poorer countries.

Dictated by his duties as chairman of the OIC, the Amir had also used his good offices to improve the conditions of the Bulgarian Muslims and travelled for thousands of miles to meet his friends the heads of state all over the world in the interest of the Muslim nation," Shamalan added.

## Families attacked

**FAMILIES** enjoying their Wednesday and Thursday weekend at the Green Island and other utilities of the Water Front Project were manhandled by a group of juvenile delinquent boys, according to a local daily.

According to reports, the problem began when the boys began "passing rude remarks and gestures" at girls who were with their families. The women folk intervened with the boys in an effort to prevent their unruly behaviour which resulted in the "hooligans" getting violent and abusive.

Subsequently, other people had to intervene to stop the juveniles from carrying their unruly behaviour any further.

In the scuffle, one boy was seriously injured and six suffered minor injuries.

and regulation of joint Arab security action, and that discussion always dealt with identical views and harmonious understanding of all issues under consideration.

He added that more effort was needed to make further achievements in the field of Arab security co-operation, calling for the need to make major decisions to ensure the implementation of all recommendations adopted at these conferences.

Morad pointed out that all issues tackled at these conferences were related to furthering co-operation, co-ordination

development of its working programmes.

**Commitment** The new working programme was also aimed at deepening the centre's commitment to all science oriented activities, in and outside the Arab world, and accurate evaluation was an essential requirement before decision was taken as to what direction the centre would take to pursue its goals at the outset of each year, Morad said.

He pointed out that the evaluation process would also help point out shortcomings and existing negatives whereby quick effort and speedy measures would be taken to rectify or adjust defective efforts, with an eye on better performance and more achievement.

He said that the higher-studies programmes were offered in security science at the higher institute, which included training at the training centre involving research and study activities.

## Governorate councils Service levels upgrade

THE Governor of Jahra Sheikh Ali Al Abdullah Al Sabah has said that the coming stage will witness a number of substantial developments in the service level offered by the five governorates following the establishment of the governorate councils.

He told a local daily that there was no intention to annex any new area to the governorate and that the annexation of Doha and Sulaymaniyah had been effected a short while back.

The new stage working programme for the governorate is still under planning. Every care is being taken to ensure successful implementation whereby all citizens would be able to benefit from this programme.

In the interim, work will continue in line with the current working programme until a final formula of the proposed new one has been approved, the governor said.

He disclosed that the Higher Governorates Council chaired by the Crown Prince and Prime Minister had discussed the council's budgets and formed working committees to determine the required budgetary allocations. The governor commented that HH Sheik Saad Al Abdulla Al Sabah paid great interest to the need to uplift the performance level at each governorate to render better services to citizens.

The governorate personnel paid inspection visits to different areas to find out about the problems of citizens and devise effective solutions. Additionally, a series of meetings were held in the governorate to follow up the consideration of issues brought to the governorate's attention through the Citizen's Office at the governorate.

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T-28 bomber planes used by army rebels in an attack on the Presidential Palace. (Reuter wirephoto)



Wounded government troops inspect damage caused by Philippine jet fighters which mistakenly bombed their convoy in Manila.

# Philippine coup attempt surprises Washington

**WASHINGTON**, (Reuter): The latest coup attempt against Philippine President Corazon Aquino occurred when many US experts thought she had weathered her worst challenges and raises questions about the extent to which Aquino may still depend on US support.

American analysts say Aquino's request for US aircover to help put down troops is likely to be criticised in the Philippines, where pressure has grown for her to show more independence from the United States.

But in the long term, the analysts said US President George Bush's decision to leap to the defence of an elected government is expected to strengthen ties between the two countries—and US prospects for a new agreement extending its right to keep vital military bases in the Philippines.

US officials said on Friday troops loyal to Aquino appeared to be winning their battle against military rebels with the help of air cover by US F-4 Phantom jets ordered by Bush.

About 1,000 rebel troops, believed to be led by cashiered army Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, early on Friday began the boldest challenge to overthrow Aquino since she swept to power in 1986 in a popular revolt that ended the 20-year rule of Ferdinand Marcos.

Honasan was also behind the last serious revolt in 1987. The latest uprising is the sixth against Aquino.

Larry Niksch, an Asia expert with the library of Congress who like US officials had concluded that threats to Aquino had abated and Honasan's threat faded, revised that view on Friday.

While Aquino has taken steps to improve life for the armed forces with better pay, equipment and other reforms, "we have concluded the situation had changed too much," Niksch said. "Obviously discontent has remained within the military."

Under Aquino the country has restored democracy, improved its economy and made gains fighting a communist insurgency.

But increasingly there have been complaints about a revival of the corruption prevalent in the Marcos years, a surge of bureaucratic incompetence and continuing rampant poverty.

In addition, many Filipinos believe the government could do a better job fighting the communists.

And doubts remain about the

## Bush's help could weaken Cory finally

**MANILA**, (Reuter): US President George Bush is unlikely to get much thanks in the Philippines by saving President Corazon Aquino so openly from the country's latest attempted coup.

The dramatic US intervention in the Philippine military coup, providing air cover to knock out rebel planes, signalled the defeat for the sixth attempted takeover against Aquino.

But its political cost could be heavy for the former US colony which is still trying to stamp out its image as a country that cannot solve its own problems without help from Washington, political analysts said.

For one, they said, the help from Bush—although requested by Aquino—was certain to strengthen Washington's hand in this month's scheduled talks on the future of US military bases in the Philippines.

Manila was expected to press strongly for extra compensation for the bases, but Aquino's position now appears compromised, press commentators and diplomats said.

Analysts said Washington's rescue operation would also give fresh ammunition to a 20-year communist insurgency that has branded the president as a US puppet, as well as to the conservative right-wing political opposition already girding up for the 1992 presidential election.

The coup attempt, which has killed at least 26 people and wounded scores of others, happened at a time when Aquino seemed most politically vulnerable.

Once immensely popular, Aquino has come under mounting attack from both big business and the middle class, her chief support, for failing to solve basic problems like the daily power blackouts and a crumbling public transport system.

A day before the mutineers launched their sixth and most serious bid for power, Aquino sharply raised petrol prices, sparking street demonstrations by leftist and moderate workers.

The unions have called for a nationwide strike next week in protest against the price hikes.

The revolt showed how sharply Aquino's popularity had eroded since her triumphant accession to power nearly four years ago as the saviour of Philippine democracy.

In the dark hours of the coup attempt, the international community rallied round Aquino to condemn the rebel forces, expressing concern at its possible disastrous effect on the economy.

Filipinos who thrust Aquino into the presidency in a popular revolt in 1986 remained largely passive even as rebel soldiers grabbed one military base after another.

"Although it is not clear what their (the rebels') intentions are, I would not mind a change of government," a public school teacher said in a radio interview.

"I am fed up with Cory's government, with her cabinet members who know nothing about running their offices."

Manila newspapers on Saturday criticised Aquino's decision to call for US military help to quell the rebellion.

Popular columnist Max Soliven of the Philippine Star newspaper called the US intervention a blow to Manila's self-respect. Editor Luis Mauricio of the Malaya daily said it closed Philippine options in the bases talks.

The US lease on Clark Air Base, Subic Naval Base and four smaller facilities expires in 1991. Washington wants the lease extended, saying the bases are vital to regional security. The planes providing air support for Aquino operated out of Clark.

A strong bloc in the Philippine Senate, which must approve any new bases agreement, has demanded the removal of the bases.

"Any doubt about President Aquino having closed her options on the military bases has been erased," Mauricio wrote in his column.

"The 1947 military bases agreement will be renewed... all according to script."

In a country where communist assassins have killed six Americans in ambushes in the past three years, the Bush intervention increases the threat to American lives, analysts said.

ability of Aquino, widow of assassinated opposition politician Benigno Aquino, to govern.

The state Department said



A comrade looks at a dead government soldier while a military jeep burns after Philippine jets mistakenly bombed a convoy in Manila. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Rebels robbed of advantage

### US air support upset timetable

**MANILA**, (AP): US warplanes' support of government forces upset the mutineers' timetable and deprived them of an advantage that might have meant victory in their attempt to topple President Corazon Aquino.

US warplanes provided air cover Friday for pro-government forces at a point where rebellious officers seemed close to toppling the 4-year-old Aquino administration.

In coup attempts in January 1987 and again the following August, mutineers had tried but failed to seize Villamor Air Base and the naval air station at Sangley Point. This time, they succeeded.

The two installations gave the mutineers access to aircraft, enabling them to rocket and strafe the presidential palace, two major military installations and to knock out the only government television station which was broadcasting Friday.

An airfield also would have enabled the rebels to fly their own reinforcements quickly from southeastern Luzon and Mindanao, where opposition to the government is strong.

By noon (0400 GMT), the rebels had blasted Malacanang Palace twice and Camp Crame, headquarters of the Philippine Constabulary, and Camp Aguinaldo, headquarters of the armed forces, a total of six times.

The psychological impact was great. Presidential staffers contacted by telephone panicked.

Thomas Rockford, a senior fellow with the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, said it was unclear what the rebels expected to gain since they,

apparently had issued no demands and no political figures joined their ranks.

"It seems like a pathetically

weak mutiny," Rockford said. "I don't think it's a fundamental threat to the democratic process in the Philippines but it's going to hurt the image of the government

The attacks also cut Aquino off from her people—one attack knocked off the air the only operating television station, depriving Aquino of her conduit to the Filipino public.

Rebel sources, contacted at the height of the attacks, said they were convinced of victory and were simply waiting for Aquino to resign. All that changed with US intervention.

Aquino said the government decided to ask for US military support by noon, when her situation appeared desperate. The presence of US Air Force F-4 fighter bombers put an end to rebel air raids.

During the full, Philippine F-5 jets raided Sangley Point and destroyed the planes which had attacked the palace.

The half-day operations also gave the government time to rush in reinforcements from nearby regions of central and southern Luzon Island, where commanders were loyal to Aquino.

When the coup attempt was launched early Friday, it appeared that the government could count on relatively few troops based in the capital.

Reporters saw few pro-government checkpoints or patrols on the streets during the crucial, early hours of the coup attempt, when the rebels were rushing units into the capital.

The psychological impact was great. Presidential staff

and Cory Aquino and dis-

courage some businessmen from investing there."

Aquino, strongly backed by

the United States, has been walking a fine line, trying to maintain good ties with Washington while breaking away from the colonial relationship.

## Scene

### Hell of a bloody show

## Shoot it out

**MANILA**, Dec 2, (AP): Spectators who watched the life-and-death struggle yesterday between mutineers and government forces urged both sides to shoot it out to the last man, just like in the movies.

Hundreds watched atop the south superhighway overpass as three T-28 aircraft and a Sikorsky helicopter bombed President Corazon Aquino's palace and suburban military headquarters.

As the vintage planes and the Vietnam-era gunship approached their targets and fired, the crowd would cheer as if were all in the movies.

"Wow. That was a great shot," said a cigarette-vendor, Julio Torres, pointing toward the presidential palace. "But it would really be better if there could be a dog fight later on, just like in the movies."

Hours later, Philippine Air Force F-4 jets chased the renegade aircraft out of the Manila area and later destroyed them on the ground at an air station in Sangley point in Cavite province, just across Manila bay.

In the afternoon, US F-4 warplanes, after getting the nod from US President George Bush to assist Mrs Aquino's government, joined in patrolling the air in search of other hostile aircraft.

"I wish there could be a live gunbattle here," added a 9-year-old boy. "I haven't seen one although I've watched a lot of war movies."

Early yesterday, rebellious marines from neighbouring Fort Bonifacio took over the suburban Philippine Air Force headquarters, Villamore Air Base.

And almost simultaneously, crowds from a squatter colony outside the two camps began pouring onto the overpass to see rebel soldiers set up road blocks and prepare perimeter defences in anticipation of a counter-attack.

While the rebel officers barked last minute instructions to troops, young kids and teenage boys milled around them to examine their bandoliers of bullets, automatic weapons, and recoilless rifles.

Others gingerly knocked on the bodies of two US-made V-150 armoured personnel carriers and two World War II-Vintage landing vehicle tanks guarding the overpass linking the two camps or point to their machineguns and cannons.

The hours passed and onlookers began to swell and mix with mutinous troops.

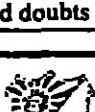
At first light, passenger jeeps were zooming past rebel tanks as they crossed the overpass. School children, office and factory workers were walking around mutineers' positions. Newspaper delivery boys on bikes were briskly selling early editions.

By mid-morning, soda, peanut and duck egg vendors, and foreigners, had joined the crowd.

Indian businessman Shiv Inder Singh, his wife, daughter and another relative, posed for souvenir shots with mutineering soldiers.

"I think this happens here all the time," said Mrs Singh, who refused to give her first name. "Life goes on here, even with the coup."

Mrs Aquino's government has survived at least six coup attempts since ousting 20-year-ruler Ferdinand Marcos in 1986. Marcos died in exile in Hawaii in September.



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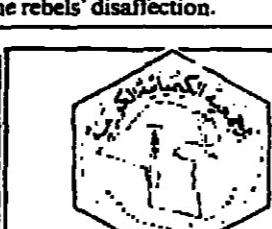
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Arab Times

## PHILIPPINES

Key times  
in the  
coup  
attempt

MANILA, Dec 2, (AP): Here is a list of key times in the coup attempt against President Corazon Aquino:

Wednesday

10 pm (1400 GMT): 13 mutineers sabotage military transmitters in Tagaytay city 50 kms (30 miles) south of Manila.

Thursday

8 am (0000 GMT): Chief of Staff Renato De Villa arrests, interrogates those involved in the power sabotage. He later announces the shutdown is part of a plot to oust President Corazon Aquino to be launched Dec 1.

Friday

1:20 am (1720 GMT): Rebel scouts rangers overpower guards at Villamor Air Base of the Philippine Air Force and later surround private television station ABS-CBN and government television station.

2:55 am (1855 GMT): Firing between rebels and pro-government forces. Rebels fire mortars at the 205th helicopter wing headquarters, setting it on fire.

4:00 am (2000 GMT): Rebels occupy two television stations.

6:40 am (2240 GMT): Rebel T-28 planes rocket the presidential palace, hit the press room. Government troops open fire.

6:55 am (2255 GMT): Palace is rocked again.

7:40 am (2340 GMT): President Aquino vows in a radio address to "smash this naked attempt" to take power.

8:30 am (0030 GMT): Ship lands in Cebu city with 400 mutinous soldiers, armoured personnel carriers.

9:05 am (0105 GMT): Rebel spokesman air statement over radio DZXL but is cut off the air after asking for prayers for "those leaders pretending to be leaders."

9:50 am (0150 GMT): Government helicopter fires at rebel-controlled government station; rebel plane fires rocket at Channel 9 airing government statements.

10:00 am (0200 GMT): Rebel Sikorsky helicopters bomb camp Aguinaldo and Crame, headquarters of the Armed Forces and Philippine Constabulary Headquarters three times, set Crame on fire.

12:00 pm (0400 GMT): Rebel T-28 planes bomb Crame second time, followed by a third attack a half hour later.

12:30 pm (0430 GMT): Mrs Aquino decides to ask help from President George Bush for military assistance in quelling coup attempt.

1:15 pm (0515 GMT): Philippine fighter planes, under cover of US jets, attack rebel-controlled Sangley point, destroying eight planes.

4:00 pm (0800 GMT): Government forces retake Sangley, 3 killed.

5:20 pm (0920 GMT): Government troops retake Aguinaldo, 320 rebels surrender.

6:00 pm (1000 GMT): De Villa announces in a radio interview coup attempt is over.

6:15 pm (1015 GMT): Mrs. Aquino makes final statement on radio: "enemies routed but not yet vanquished."

10:00 pm (1400 GMT): Rebels pull out from government television.

10:30 pm (1430 GMT): Rebels vacate Villamor.

# Bush keeping close watch on Philippines

Soviets criticise American interference

MARSAXLOKK BAY, Malta, Dec 2, (Agencies): President George Bush, from his shipboard summit headquarters, has been keeping a close watch on an attempted coup in the Philippines after sending US jet fighters to help besieged President Corazon Aquino.

Bush ordered F-4 fighters from Clark Air Force base into the skies over the Philippines to provide air cover for pro-government forces. A contingent of 100 marines was also sent from a US base in the Philippines to help protect the US embassy compound in Manila.

"We are hopeful the situation will be contained," Bush told reporters

soon after arriving in Malta for the weekend summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Soviet Union today warned the United States against interference in the Philippines.

"We unambiguously speak out against interference in the affairs of any state," a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman was quoted as saying by the official news agency Tass.

The report said the unidentified spokesman was responding to a question about US involvement in the Philippines battle.

On Friday a Soviet official in Malta for the superpower summit cautioned the United States against interference in the Philippines, a vital US ally in Asia.

"As for expectations of possible interference by the United States in the Philippines, we are against such interference," Arkady Maslenikov, head of information of the Supreme Soviet (parliament), told a news conference in Valletta.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams said that no US planes had "fired any shots or intercepted any rebel aircraft." Rear Adm. Edward Shearer of the defence intelligence agency said "the government forces seem to be prevailing" in the struggle.

Late yesterday a senior defence official said that "trends generally favour the government" but that fighting was continuing as daylight approached in Manila.

Bush ordered the air support to help protect the Aquino government, while he was still en route from Washington aboard the presidential airplane. The quick help came after Aquino spoke by telephone with Vice President Dan Quayle.

A Bush administration official said the US fighters were authorized to fire only if rebel planes attempted to take off from Philippines air bases, and then only after repeated warnings.

Bush's decision won strong bipartisan support from members of the US Congress. George Mitchell, the Senate's Democratic majority leader, called it "prudent and in our national interest."

The President received updates on the situation from his national security adviser, Brent Scowcroft. Bush was told government forces had taken one airfield and that trouble spots were being cleaned up, but the coup attempt was still in progress, White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater said in a statement.

"It is fair to say that the situation is serious," Secretary of State James A. Baker III said. "We have provided some air support, air cover."

In Washington, State Department deputy spokesman Richard Boucher said Americans should defer travel to the Philippines in view of the unrest. All Americans already in the Philippines are being asked to remain in their homes and hotels, he said.

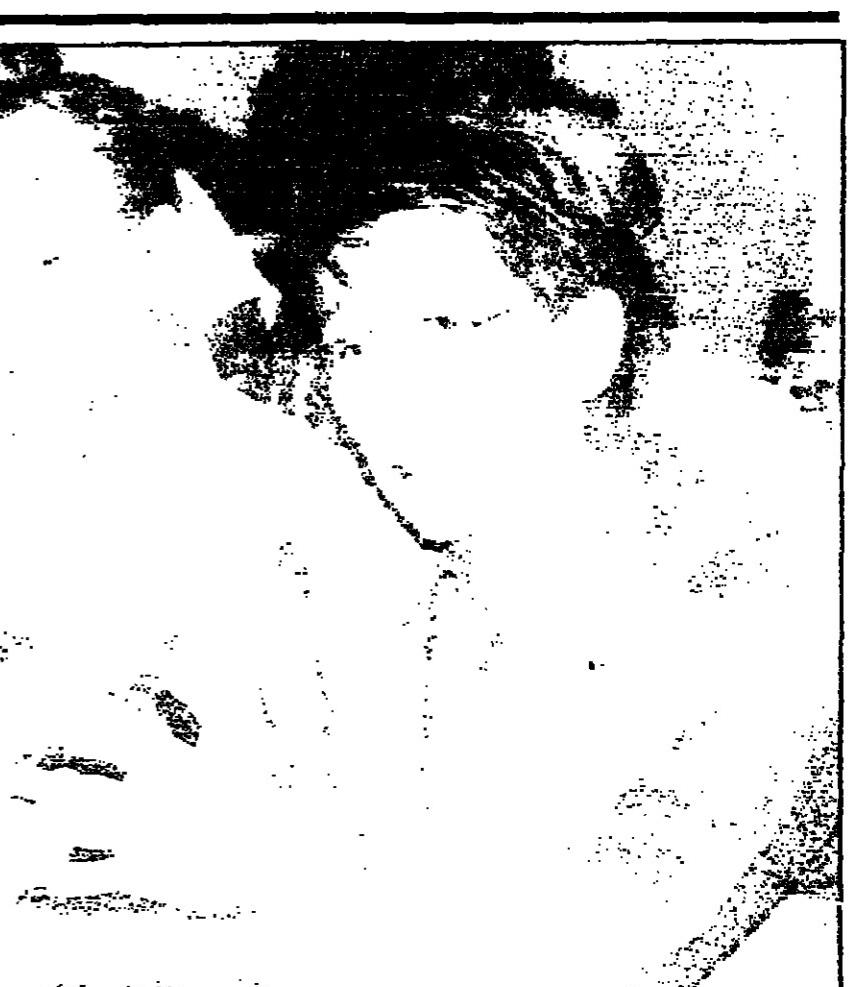
Boucher said there are about 106,000 US citizens in Manila and about 8,500 in Cebu, the second largest city. No figures were available on the number of Americans elsewhere in the country.

Bush's decision to grant US military aid came just hours after rebels bombed the presidential palace in Manila in the most serious effort to oust Aquino since she came to power in 1986.

Before a session with Maltese Prime Minister Eddie Fenech Adami, Bush said Aquino "sounded fine" when she took a telephone call from Quayle in Washington.

At the same time, however, the CIA reported that some senior Filipino officials were worried that entire segments of their armed forces would fail to "fight effectively" against the rebels, an administration source said.

The mutineers returned fire with assault rifles, and rebel armoured cars attacked government troops defending the military headquarters. The



Enrile denies accusation

Opposition leader Juan Ponce Enrile (right) denies accusation of President Corazon Aquino of being behind the abortive coup in the Philippines. At left is former labour minister Blas Ople. (Reuters wirephoto)



Salvador Laurel (left) and Homobono Adaza expose their views on the rebel-led coup attempt in Manila. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Laurel denies coup role

American air assistance condemned

HONG KONG, Dec 2, (Reuters): The leader of the Philippines' main opposition party said in Hong Kong today he played no direct part in an attempted coup against the Aquino government but declined to condemn the rebel action outright.

He also condemned the American air assistance which helped government forces pit rebels to air bases they took in the first hours of the attempt.

"I took no part in the events of the last three days," Vice President Salvador Laurel, who arrived in the British colony yesterday from a private visit to London, said in an interview.

President Corazon Aquino in Manila earlier accused opposition leaders of initiating and financing yesterday's abortive coup which collapsed after US President George Bush ordered air support of loyalist troops.

Laurel, head of the Nacionalista Party, condemned what he called armed US intervention in internal Philippine affairs which he said ran against the

spirit and grain of the constitution: "I believe that internal matters should be resolved exclusively by Filipinos."

Laurel said he did not know which army faction was behind the attempt but his sources in the Philippines informed him that 75 per cent of the military backed it.

Philippine Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos had said cashed army Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan appeared to be behind the attempted takeover.

"I think Aquino would have a hard time matching the popularity of Gringo," Laurel said, but added: "I cannot say I openly or covertly support the Honasan group."

Asked if he would serve under a military government, the vice-president said: "It would depend on the circumstance — if it was good for the country, if it would avert civil war, anything that would protect the Filipino people I would do."

Two civilian bystanders slowly drag a government soldier to safety after he was injured by a Philippine jet fighter. (Reuters wirephoto)



## Economy will suffer: Filipinos

(Continued from Page 1)  
Filipinos living in Kuwait fear investors will back off due to the unstable situation in their country. Like many others questioned, he said Aquino should take firm, positive action to put down the rebellion.

"The President does not have a real hold on the army; this is her main mistake. She should now act more positively," said one Filipino who wishes to remain anonymous.

"We are not particular about who is in power. We just want stability," said Emong Limdimas. Emong voicing concern at the brutal turn of events in Manila, said: "The trouble is that everyone wants to be a leader. We just hope things return to normal."

The army faction, led by Gringo, was described as "trouble-makers" by Arthur Reyes.

President." He believes the Philippines government would be able to put down the rebellion and settle the problem. "I have confidence in the President. She'll (take necessary steps) to stop further bloodshed and bring everything under control," said Manny.

"It's time for the government to react and stop this stupidity," said Rod Cerezo.

Rod, wants the government to retaliate firmly. "We're fed up with such attempts (coups). It's high time the President showed us... and the military, she has the right to govern with an iron fist, dictate and order. That's all we're asking from the President."

Filipinos fear the seventh coup attempt against Aquino will set back economic recovery. "Not many foreign investors will have enough confidence to remain in the country" said Mercado.

Such reactions are not surprising, in view of the shooting that erupted around rebel positions in Manila's business area.

"We just hope things return to normal," added another.

"Aquino will complete her term. She will quell the rebellion and restore peace and order," said a confident Filipino.

"What's new about coup attempts?" asked one Filipino nurse. "They are commonplace. My only concern is my family," she said, voicing fears of many of her compatriots.

Filipinos are making frantic telephone calls to their families back home to find out about their welfare. "I have called them twice today," said Richard Mercado.

The situation is getting serious; now civilians are dying in the shooting. We are so worried" said Mercado.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

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## Benjedid re-elected President

ALGIERS, Dec 2. (AP): The three-day extraordinary congress of the ruling National Liberation Front closed yesterday with the unanimous re-election of Chadli Benjedid as its president.

But the congress also nearly doubled the number of members of its Central Committee, electing many hard-liners known for their support for the late leftist President Houari Boumedienne.

Chadli called on the 5,000-member party congress to "close ranks and remain united" against the challenge of at least 12 opposition parties likely to compete for power in general elections scheduled early next year.

The congress heard repeated calls for Algeria's democratisation, but in the end elected a 272-member Central Committee — an increase of 117 — many of whom were known

to be favour hard-line socialism.

Benjedid had announced that the Central Committee members would be individually elected. But, in the end, the congress was presented with a complete list nominees which was then "elected by acclamation."

Among those taking up positions on the Central Committee are former members of Boumedienne's government who were removed from power following the president's death in 1978.

Chadli, who was elected to succeed him as Algeria's president, has worked patiently to take Algeria down a more pragmatic, liberal road.

The committee was expected to hold its first meeting in the next few days to elect a new secretary general and make some far-reaching decisions on Algeria's future policies.

The congress met in closed session after its formal opening, and delegates said many of the debates were stormy.

One of the significant actions was eliminating the word "socialism" from the description of government policy. The congress also said Algeria needed "to deepen democratic practice, encourage the private sector, create mixed (half-capitalist) societies and decentralise the process of decision making."

But the words were seen largely as window-dressing, since the Central Committee took on a sharply leftist tone in its membership.

Significant in the congress' cultural resolution was a call for defense of the "Algerian personality" including the teaching of the Arabic language, but insisting "on the necessity to teach foreign languages to permit access to universal culture and civilisation."



Search in Nablus

Israeli soldiers search homes in the Casbah, the ancient market-place in Nablus, which is under curfew following ambush by the Israeli Army on the Palestinian group, Black Panthers. (Reuter wirephoto)

## 2 Sudan leaders freed from jail

KHARTOUM, Dec 2. (Agencies): A Sudanese newspaper reported today that two leading politicians, jailed after a military coup on June 30, had been released from prison and put under house arrest.

No independent confirmation of the report in the Khartoum daily Sudan Al Hadith was immediately available.

The newspaper said Mohamed Osman Al Minghani, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, and Dr Hassan Al Turabi, leader of the fundamentalist National Islamic Front, were freed from Kobar prison on Thursday.

It said both politicians had expressed support for the policies of the military junta, which banned political parties and trade unions after it took power from the elected civilian government of Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi.

Mahdi is still in jail.

Sudan Al Hadith also reported that an unspecified number of government soldiers wounded in fighting to recapture the town of Karmuk from rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) were airlifted to Khartoum yesterday in a military plane.

The newspaper said the town, on the Ethiopian border, was retaken on Wednesday in a fierce 45-minute battle in which the SPLA suffered heavy losses before the rebels fled across the frontier.

The SPLA, fighting since 1983 in southern Sudan against what it views as domination by the Muslim, Arabic north, has denied there was any fighting. It said it withdrew from Karmuk, seized on October 28, two days earlier.

## Hassan wins referendum

## Moroccan poll delayed

RABAT, Dec 2. (Reuters): Moroccans have almost unanimously backed a call by King Hassan to postpone general elections for two years in a referendum that became a plebiscite on the country's long-running war in Western Sahara.

The inhabitants of the bleak and barren territory are all considered Moroccan citizens and would have voted in the parliamentary elections although the UN vote has not yet confirmed this status.

Opposition groups, eagerly awaiting the elections, all called for a "yes" result after the king linked the issue with the Saharan war.

Since the war began, Moroccans have rallied round the throne and helped King Hassan build powerful national support.

All nine political parties represented in the current Chamber of Representatives (parliament) assert Moroccan sovereignty over the Western Sahara.

## Iran-Iraq summit proposed

BAGHDAD, Dec 2. (AP): President Saddam Hussein today accused Iran of blocking the repatriation of tens of thousands of prisoners of war, still held by the two countries more than 15 months after a United Nations-sponsored ceasefire halted the Gulf war.

He also disclosed that during recent diplomatic shuttle between Baghdad and Tehran by UN envoy Ian Eliasen, Iran proposed a summit meeting between leaders of the two countries to end the deadlock in the peace talks. He said the Iranians have yet to respond.

But Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency, in a dispatch from the United Nations, called the Iraqi proposal another effort to "writhe the final course of the UN-sponsored peace process."

The Iraqi dispatch from the United Nations did not comment on the proposal, but said, "but said, 'the upcoming visit to New York by the foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq will offer a good opportunity to the secretary general for ridding the talks of its present deadlock.'

The two ministers are due in New York in mid-December.

Speaking to families of the Gulf war dead, Saddam blamed the Iranian leaders for disregarding the fate of the prisoners of war.

## 13 hurt, curfew in Nablus

OCCUPIED GAZA, Dec 2. (Reuters): Palestinian youths held marches and demonstrations throughout the occupied Gaza Strip today in protest at the killing of four Arabs in an ambush by the Israeli army.

"It's very hot. It's like the early days of the intifada (uprising)," one Arab witness in Gaza told Reuters.

"There are mass marches and schoolchildren are protesting and refusing to go to their classes."

Israeli troops wounded 13 Palestinians in Gaza City and the refugee camps of Jabalya and Nureirat when they opened fire to disperse stone-throwing protesters, Arab hospital officials said.

The Israeli military censor lifted a ban on publishing Arab reports that soldiers were wearing Arab dress when they killed the four members of the Black Panthers group in a gunfight in Nablus in the occupied West Bank yesterday.

The ambush was the most spectacular action so far in a drive by the security forces to combat Palestinian activists who attack fellow Arabs suspected of aiding Israeli authorities.

An army spokeswoman said she knew of no Arab injuries during the demonstrations in the Gaza Strip, but she said the army had imposed a curfew on the Gaza border town of Rafah.

Arab merchants in the occupied territories closed shops in a spontaneous strike in protest at the Nablus killings, residents said. Shops in Israeli-annexed east Jerusalem were already shut in protest at the shooting of two brothers by the army.

In the West Bank, the 120,000 residents of Nablus and three adjoining refugee camps were confined to their homes under an army curfew, the spokeswoman said.

## War may cause exodus

## Ethiopia faces famine

ADDIS ABABA, Dec 2. (AP): The government said yesterday that continued war in northern Ethiopia could lead to a mass exodus of civilians and increased famine.

In a statement published in Addis Ababa's newspapers, the Ministry of Information said the "root cause of hunger in northern Ethiopia" is a civil war "to dismember the country."

It said the Tigre people's Liberation Front, which has been in virtual full control of Tigre province since February, "is spreading hunger and famine" to neighbouring provinces.

The Tigrean rebels launched an offensive in late August that has seen them move steadily southward and westward into the provinces of Wollo and Gonder.

The rebel claim they have penetrated as far south as northern Shewa, the province that contains the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa.

The United Nations has estimated that 4 million

people are at risk of famine in Eritrea, Ethiopia's northernmost province, Tigre, Wollo and Gonder.

Earlier this week, the government disputed that estimate, saying its surveys show some 1.8 million people at risk of starvation, mostly in Eritrea.

The government's statement yesterday appeared more in line with the UN's estimate of the threat, which it said could equal the 1984-85 Ethiopian famine that killed an estimated one million people.

Neither the government nor any international agency has estimated the number of people displaced so far by the fighting in Tigre, Wollo and Gonder.

The government has been battling secessionist rebels in Eritrea since 1961. The Tigrean rebels took up arms 14 years ago in an effort to topple the government in Addis Ababa.

Norway yesterday approved 2.2 million kroner (\$324,000) in special food and medical aid to Ethiopia, which is threatened by famine.

## Arab group accedes to Nam request

## Vote on Palestine put off

UNITED NATIONS, Dec 2. (Reuters): Voting on a controversial resolution to upgrade the UN status of the Palestine Liberation Organisation is being postponed until Monday, the Arab League's UN observer said yesterday.

The United States has threatened to withhold its UN dues if the General Assembly upgrades the PLO delegation from that of an observer organisation to an observer state, on a par with countries such as Switzerland and North and South Korea.

The United States is obligated to pay 25 percent of the UN's annual budget of some \$850 million, though it is \$430 million in arrears for this and previous years.

Withholding of its dues would be a severe financial blow to the world body. Also, the United States would stand to lose its UN vote if its arrears equalled contributions owed for the preceding two full years.

Speaking to reporters after a closed-door meeting of Arab ambassadors, Arab League observer Clovis Maksoud said voting on all other drafts dealing with the questions of Palestine and the Middle East would also be put off until Monday.

He said the Arab group was acceding to a request from the Non-Aligned group, which wanted more time to enlist additional support for the resolutions.

"The Arab group, in response to the request of the co-ordinating Committee of the Non-Aligned, has postponed the voting on this (PLO) resolution, as well as all the Middle East and Palestinian items, until Monday afternoon as a final and unequivocal commitment," he said.

Stressing there would be no further postponement, he added: "We are only accommodating our friends in the Non-Aligned Co-ordinating Committee in order that they can support this resolution more firmly."

Countries opposed to enhancing the status of the PLO, or simply anxious not to precipitate a crisis that could damage the United Nations, have been considering a parliamentary manoeuvre under which a motion would be submitted to take no action on the resolution.

A similar device has been used since 1982 to block annual challenges to Israel's UN credentials.



Human shield protects Aoun

A general view taken from air of thousands of demonstrators who gathered around the destroyed presidential palace in East Beirut to support defiant

General Michel Aoun, who refused to step down and give power to Lebanon's new President. (Reuter wirephoto)

## UAE celebrates National Day marked by a show of its air, sea, ground forces might

ABU DHABI, Dec 2. (Agencies): UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan has called on his people to arm themselves with science, knowledge and faith, strengthen the federation and move towards the future with confidence.

Marking the eighteenth Independence Day Sheikh Zayed in a speech appealed to Iran and Iraq to hasten the pace towards a peace treaty "so that the region may reap the fruit of stability and security."

He also declared his "undivided support" for the Palestinian uprising against Israel in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, asking leaders of the world to help the Palestinians regain their "rights and stop the barbaric perpetrations of Israel against the Arabs in occupied territory."

He urged the people and leaders of Lebanon to patch up their differences and push their country

towards national reconciliation.

All seven emirates held separate celebrations, with each decorating its main avenues and government buildings and marking the occasion by "lighting the National Day Torches."

Desert drummers and torch bearers marched through streets, along with sword-wielding nationalists in bedouin robes and headgear.

Sheikh Zayed said the country had gained the respect of other nations because of its "balanced and far-sighted" policies. It had made remarkable achievements in different sectors, led by oil and including industry, communications and agriculture.

In an interview published in the magazine, "Diar Al Watan," on the occasion of the National Day, the President reminded his people that despite regional and international turmoil, the UAE had been able to

gain respect and influence in the world due to its prudent policies its far-sightedness and its internal cohesion.

The celebrations in Abu Dhabi were marked by a formation of French-built Mirage 2000 jet fighters highlighting a two-hour military parade.

Sheikh Zayed attended the display of ground, sea

and air weapons at a seafront boulevard and a grandstand packed with an estimated 5,000 spectators.

Flanked on both sides by his top aides and rulers of the various emirates, the UAE leader clapped as the Mirages swooped low overhead. One Mirage drew an ovation with aerobatics, before formations of transport planes, armed helicopters and interceptors paraded past the crowds.

The Mirage 2000s, about six in all, were delivered a few days ago, the first batch of a \$2.2-billion deal involving a total of 36 Mirages and various types of military hardware signed with France in 1985.

The arrival of the Mirages was seen here as sign of improved relations with France, after a disagreement over a demand that the aircraft be equipped with US-built Sidewinder air-to-surface missiles.

## Arabs urged to develop space, missile technology

BAGHDAD, Dec 2. (Reuters): A former Egyptian defence minister urged Arab nations today to co-operate in developing space and missile technology to counter Israeli advances in the field.

In an article in the ruling Baath party newspaper Al Thawra, General Mohammed Fawzi said recent Israeli satellite and missile launches were a clear warning for the Arabs.

"Why don't the Arabs concentrate their joint efforts to develop missiles and space technology... the basic technology for both are available in Iraq and Egypt," he wrote.

Foreign reports have said Iraq and Egypt are co-operating with Argentina to produce a long-range ground-to-ground missile.

During the final years of the Gulf war Iraq used missiles with a range of 650 km to attack Tehran and other Iranian cities. It says it has also tested a missile with a range of 900 km.

Lebanon 150

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Japan's account surplus declines

TOKYO, Dec 2, (AP): Japan's current account surplus declined for the eighth consecutive month in October, falling the largest amount ever from year-earlier levels, the Finance Ministry announced yesterday.

The surplus in the current account, the broadest measure of a nation's international financial flows, shrank 51.8 per cent to \$3.59 billion from \$7.45 billion in October 1988.

The surplus also declined from the previous month, when it registered \$5.91 billion, the ministry said.

In separate announcement yesterday, the management and co-ordination agency said the country's unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage point in October to 2.3 per cent.

The agency said the nation's job holders in October totalled 61.94 million, up 1.29 million, or 2.1 per cent, from the same month last year.

October marked the fifth consecutive month that the number of job holders posted a monthly increase of more than 1.2 million, the agency said.

The Finance Ministry said Japan's trade surplus in October, measured on the basis of settled contracts, was \$5.46 billion, down from \$9.90 billion a year earlier.

Japan's exports during the month totalled \$22.37 billion, down 2.6 per cent from a year earlier, while imports were \$16.91 billion, up 2.9 per cent.

The previous record decline in the current account was \$2.93 billion in July 1984, the ministry said.

A ministry official speaking on condition of anonymity, attributed the decrease to the decline in exports, particularly of automobiles and steel. Car exports fell 12.8 per cent from the previous year's level, while steel exports declined 3.89 per cent he said.

**Plan to stimulate capital flow**

MANAMA, Dec 2, (Kuna): The Bahrain Stock Exchange and Kuwait's bourse have agreed to facilitate investment procedures in their two institutions, according to the director of Bahrain Stock Exchange Fawzi Bahzad.

Bahzad was quoted by the Bahraini Gulf News daily as saying Kuwait and other Gulf investors would have the same treatment of the Bahraini regarding dealing in the stock exchange.

He said the agreement on this co-ordination was reached during a meeting he held here recently with the technical director of Kuwaiti bourse Dr Sa'ata Al Rikabi.

Bahzad said contacts were under way to ensure the flow of capital between Kuwait and Bahrain through investment in shares.

**KUWAIT, Dec 2, (KUNA):** Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait since Nov 29.

Period Bid Offered  
1 month 8.516 8.916  
3 months 8.1/4 8.1/2  
6 months 8.1/4 8.1/2  
1 year 8.1/4 8.1/2

## India seeks ways to promote trade ties with Kuwait

By M.C. Bose  
Business editor

A WELL-KNOWN economist and construction consultant has said Indian construction and engineering industry has already made its impact on the international construction market particularly in the Middle East.

Historical structures of exquisite workmanship are epitome of India's architectural and artistic skills and are constant source of inspiration for the construction companies to reach for greater heights in their professional accomplishments.

Prof. S. Sitaraman, executive director of Overseas Construction Council of India (OCCI) told the Arab Times that Indian companies have secured overseas projects of several billion dollars in the face of severe competition. Indian companies engaged in overseas construction projects have acquired adequate expertise and capabilities in the

construction of high-rise buildings, residential complexes, highways, roads, bridges, airports, harbours, multipurpose irrigation projects, water supply and sewerage schemes, water treatment plants, railways and other types of infrastructural facilities.

India's large reservoir of highly qualified personnel in the technical, managerial and financial disciplines has enabled the construction companies to offer attractive package of terms to potential overseas clients.

OCCI has been set up by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India to act as a focal point for channelling of information and to identify Indian companies capable of executing projects in overseas markets. The council also provides a forum to public and private sector construction and engineering companies in India for entering into consortium arrangements for bidding or executing overseas contracts. Sitaraman said there

are about 85 companies as members of OCCI. In order to bid for mega projects, OCCI has recently promoted a consortium of 13 leading construction companies in India.

Indian companies have completed a variety of projects in the following countries: Libya, Algeria, Maldives, Tanzania, Iraq, Oman, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Jordan, Qatar, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Soviet Union, Yemen Arab Republic, Nigeria and Brunei. He said the workmanship of Indian companies has been highly appreciated by the clients.

Looking at the construction scenario, Sitaraman said Iraq has also indicated that projects are available to those countries which offer deferred payment facilities. Apart from trade, India has played a significant role in a number of development projects in Iraq. More than 100 such projects have been com-

pleted by Indian companies in Iraq with a total value of approximately \$3,800 million. He said a good portion of these projects has been completed under deferred payment arrangement.

Sitaraman said OCCI con-

vened a meeting of all its members domiciled in Iraq, in which Indian Ambassador to Iraq, K.N. Bakshi, Commercial Counsellor A. Ramesh were also present. Nearly 30 Indian companies are still working in Iraq.

Bakshi said India's participation in the recent Baghdad International trade fair was remarkable both in terms of the number of companies and the variety of product which were on display—65 Indian companies (perhaps the biggest number in any Baghdad fair ever) spread over more than 1,000 sq. metres.

The Indian pavilion displayed products which range from agricultural machinery and equipment, machine tools, diesel engines, pump sets, mopeds, bicycles and spares, hand tools, textiles, tea, coffee, technical books, consultancy services in the fields of construction of bridges, roads, housing complexes and railways.

Joint ventures are a new field.

Indian companies are examining joint venture possibilities in many new industrial units to be set up in Iraq.

OCCI chief was visiting Kuwait last week to explore new possibilities in the construction fields. Sitaraman said: "Kuwait offers good prospects for Indian construction companies as they are now in an enviable position to meet the needs of Kuwait. There are many areas in which Indian companies with their comparatively cheap and competent manpower and international work experience can undertake major projects either as their own or in co-operation with local construction companies."

During his short visit to Kuwait, Sitaraman met some of the senior officials in the Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Electricity and Water, Ministry of Planning and National Housing Authority and discussed ways to promote economic and commercial relations between

Kuwait and India particularly in the construction fields. R.P. Singh, the first secretary of Indian embassy here, who extended his co-operation to the OCCI chief to meet most of the Kuwaiti officials.

Sitaraman said OCCI was ready to provide technical expertise and know-how to the young Kuwaiti engineering students to enable them acquire field experience. He said: "For this purpose, it would be good idea to organise a training programme in construction management for Kuwaiti youths every year in India or Kuwait. The trainees will be given basic inputs in the fields of construction technology, project management, marketing, industrial economics, engineering and finance and accounting. India and Kuwait can open new chapter in economic co-operation as partners for mutual benefit by way of development for commercial and economic progress."

### Kuwait trade volume dips

## Air of gloom still prevails

THE Alshaih Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday Nov 29, 1989 an average of 41.01 points with a decrease of 0.03 point — 0.07 per cent — from last week's average. The Alshaih Index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 64.48 with a decrease of 1.57 point — 2.38 per cent — for the same period, according to Alshaih weekly market report.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 20.10 million shares at a daily average of 4.02 million shares with a decrease of 13 per cent from the previous week's daily average of 4.61 million shares. Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 2.76 million shares at a daily average of 0.55 million shares with an increase of 62 per cent over last week's daily average of 0.34 million shares.

The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KWD 1.20 million at a daily average of KWD 0.024 million, an increase of 60 per cent over last week's daily average of KWD 0.015 million.

For the Alshaih shares market, the banking sector came first at 63 per cent of total trading against 62 per cent last week. The Gulf Bank had the lead at 30 per cent followed by the National Bank of Kuwait and Commercial Bank at 17 per cent each and Kuwait Finance House at 16 per cent. The investment sector came second at 20 per cent in which Coast Investment and Development Company had the lead at 62 per cent followed by National Investment Company at 21 per cent and Kuwait Investment Project Company at 8 per cent. The services sector came third at 9 per cent in which Mobile Telephone Systems had the lead at 84 per cent followed by Public Warehousing at 8 per cent and Kuwait Commercial Complex at 7 per cent. As for the non-Kuwaiti shares market, Bahrain International Bank had the lead at 42 per cent followed by Arabian General Investment Company (Shuaa) at 38 per cent and Gulf Medical Projects Company at 9 per cent.

The market continues to show signs of decrease. In the Kuwaiti shares market, a further decrease was recorded this week, in spite of last week's fall in all three indices and the approaching end-of-year. As for the non-Kuwaiti shares market, Bahrain International Bank had the lead at 42 per cent followed by Arabian General Investment Company (Shuaa) at 38 per cent and Gulf Medical Projects Company at 9 per cent.

The market continues to show signs of decrease. In

Al Ahli Bk 37.34 37.34 -0.47  
Bk of Kt & ME 31.91 32.38 -  
Kuwait R. Est. Bk 31.29 31.29 -  
Burjan Bk 26.53 27.06 -0.52  
Kt Finance House 85.69 87.34 -1.65  
Sector index 50.81 50.88 -0.01

Int'l Inv. Co. 10.10 11.02 -0.92  
Kt. Int. Inv. Co. 8.59 8.59 -  
IFC 29.34 29.34 -  
Comm. Facilities 151.25 154.00 -2.75  
National Inv. 55.88 54.90 -0.98  
Kt. Inv. Prog. 91.01 91.01 -  
Coast Inv. & Dev. 98.82 100.00 -1.18  
Sector index 33.24 33.77 -0.53

Kt. Fin. Co. 40.07 40.07 -  
Oil Inv. Co. 25.00 25.00 -  
APArabian EST. 50.33 50.33 -  
Warha Inv. Co. 54.12 54.12 -  
Sector index 38.54 38.54 -

Real Est. Sec. 16.06 16.06 -  
Int'l. Real Est. 5.29 5.16 0.12  
Natl. Real Est. 37.43 37.43 -  
Pearl of Kt. 71.43 71.43 -  
Sector index 18.85 18.48 0.07

Int'l. Sec. 10.91 10.91 -  
Ref. Ind. 85.65 84.55 1.10  
Gulf Cables 116.52 116.52 -  
Kt. Pharm. 62.22 62.22 -  
Sector index 28.97 28.90 0.07

Services Sector 157.68 157.68 -  
Kt. Cmtr. Co. 9.51 8.56 0.95  
Kt. Cinema Co. 66.67 66.67 -  
Wph. Woush Co. 34.53 34.99 -0.46  
Kt. Comm. M.C. 352.38 342.56 9.52  
Sector index 61.07 61.17 1.48

Food Sector 25.22 28.89 -3.66  
Utd Fisheries 11.05 11.33 -0.28  
Kt. Old Poutry 110.01 110.01 -  
Kt. Food Co. 75.86 75.86 -  
Sector index 38.37 38.83 -1.46  
Overall index 41.01 41.01 -0.03

Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies index  
Wed. Wed. Change  
29/11/89 22/11/89 points

First G. Bk. 22/11/89  
Bank. Int'l. Bk. 22/11/89  
M. E. Bk. 22/11/89  
A. Gen. Inv. (Shuaa) 22/11/89  
Umm Al Q. Cmtr. 22/11/89  
G. Mod. Proj. 22/11/89  
Total index 64.48 66.06 -1.57

\*Since period 21/12/88.  
\*\*All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.

### Kuwait shareholding companies index

Wed. Wed. Change

29/11/89 22/11/89 points

Banking Sector 126.11 124.96 1.15

The National Bk 32.81 32.81 -

The Gulf Bk 24.59 24.59 -

The Comm. Bk . - -

Securities Sector 120.50 120.50 -

Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies index 64.48 66.06 -1.57

— Since period 21/12/88.  
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## BUSINESS

**Indonesia warns against trade moves on timber**

JAKARTA, Dec 2. (Reuters): Indonesia, second only to Brazil in the vastness of its tropical forests, has warned against suggested trade moves aimed at stopping their destruction.

Last week a senior European Commission official said radical measures, such as an import levy on tropical timber, might have to be imposed to force countries to adopt sustainable development of their forests.

But in an interview, Indonesia's Environment Minister Emil Salim said the answer was to make the trees more valuable, so people look after them.

"It's common economics. If something is valuable you take care of it. It's like gold, like diamonds," he said.

"If you put on a levy ... raise the price and therefore reduce the demand what will be the impact? You will strive for a bigger volume for the same value. So you will get the reverse effect."

Destruction of the world's forests is widely linked to global warming and Western governments are coming under increasing pressure at home to take measures to force the Third World, home to many of those forests, to take more care.

Indonesia, a huge archipelago sprawling along the equator, has already banned log exports and recently put an export tax on sawn timber, arguing that it should get more out of its resources.

"The higher value you get, the more justification for using the tropical forest efficiently," Emil said. "What I want actually is to get a higher import duty on logs but a reduced import duty on higher value-added timber, like furniture."

This boosts the economy, raises incomes and employment and removes pressure on the tropical forest, he says, arguing that the root causes of much of the destruction are poverty and unemployment.

Only about a quarter of Indonesia's annual destruction of forest is from logging. The World Bank estimates that globally half of the destruction is carried out by small farmers, often using slash-and-burn techniques.

Emil said, "this approach (of import levies) ... will hit our terms of trade, our foreign exchange which is an Achilles heel in developing countries with debt repayments."

### Iran finds gas in Caspian Sea

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Dec 2. (AP): An Iranian-Soviet drilling project has struck gas under the southern Caspian Sea where seismicographic tests have indicated large oil reserves, Tehran radio reported today.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said the gas was found at depths between 1,062 metres (3,470 feet) and 4,700 metres (15,370 ft).

It said oil exploration was continuing at a depth of 6,000 metres (19,600 ft).

Oil, because it is heavier, is often found under layers of gas.

Iran's National Offshore Oil Co. and Technoexport of the Soviet Union began joint drilling in the Caspian, shared by both countries, last September. 17 miles (27.5 kilometres) off the Iranian port of Bandar Anzah.

Soviet experts say the project has immense potential. The area is not far from Soviet offshore oilfields, where production was recently pegged at 200,000 barrels a day.

The oil reserves in Iranian waters have been estimated at 300 million barrels. Another 700 million barrels may also be available.

Three more wells are scheduled to be drilled under the joint programme over the next five years. Another five wells are planned along Iran's Caspian coastline.

The NOOC-Technoexport operation is part of a 10-year co-operation pact which Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani signed in Moscow last June.

Under the agreement, totalling some \$1 billion, the Iranian will export 3 billion cubic metres of gas to the Soviet Union in return for machinery, equipment and technical expertise.

## Renewed optimism seen in the stock market

NEW YORK, Dec 2. (AP): The US Federal Reserve Board didn't come through with a widely expected cut in interest rates this past week, but investors remained optimistic anyway and stock prices rose.

"This was the first sign since the Oct 13 mini-crash that the stock market has accepted bad news with any grace," said Wall Street analyst John D. Connelly of Dean Witter Reynolds Inc.

The renewed optimism grew out of the latest economic indicators that point to a fourth-quarter economic slowdown, and expectations that the Federal Reserve will cut short-term interest rates to stimulate growth.

Data on October's personal spending and leading indicators and the outlook for November manufacturing

growth all declined, while last month's jobless claims rose.

"We now live under the perverse perception that what's bad for the economy is good for the market under the guise that the Fed will lower interest rates," said Dennis Jarrett, technical analyst with Kidder, Peabody and Co.

The Fed jolted the financial markets

Monday by signalling that it was not intentionally lowering short-term interest rates, contrary to popular speculation. The loud and clear message came in the form of the Fed draining funds from the banking system, which pushed short-term rates higher.

The assumption that the Fed was allowing short-term rates to fall grew

out of a sharp drop the previous week in the federal funds rate, the interest banks charge each other for overnight loans.

The new thinking since Monday is that the Fed will lower rates, albeit more slowly than expected, thereby stimulating the economy and bolstering sagging corporate profits in the new year.

Analysts said this week's stock market activity pointed to growing optimism following several weeks of uncertainty. Since Oct 13, when the Dow Jones industrial average tumbled more than 190 points, many investors had shied away from any kind of com-

miment.

Though some blue-chip stocks have

been strong, as reflected in the Dow average, the timidity was evident in the broader market, which has languished. Stocks that have performed best are the larger capitalisation issues, companies with reputations for long-term, uninterrupted growth.

"There's still some apprehension, but growing confidence," said Hugh Johnson, senior vice-president at First Albany Corp. "The reason the market has been this good in the face of a slowing economy is because it anticipates that the slowdown won't last as long as the Fed will take steps to lower short-term rates."

Further fueling the argument for lower interest rates is a growing consensus among economists that real GNP

growth will slow to roughly 1.5 per cent in the final quarter of 1989 from 2.7 per cent in the previous three months, analysts said.

A surprise rally yesterday ahead of the week's U.S.-Soviet summit helped boost the Dow Jones average to a 2,747.65 closing on the week, up 72.10 points from the previous week and the 10th highest finish ever.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 160.57 million shares a day, up from a daily average of 127.02 million the week before.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index closed the week up 3.37 at 193.66; the Nasdaq composite index for the over-the-counter market advanced to 457. up 0.47; and the American Stock

Exchange market value index added 2.44 to 375.58.

Analysts said the outlook for the market is positive as the year draws to a close and some said they hope for a "Santa Claus rally." Two stimulants may help fuel the upward momentum, said Alfred E. Goldman, vice-president of A.G. Edwards and Sons Inc. in St. Louis.

"Professional money managers get a big inflow of corporate profit and pension fund money that gets invested," Goldman said. "Secondly, the Christmas spirit makes people feel good."

However, Goldman and other analysts say the market might have to give more ground first. "Markets just don't go straight up."

## Gorbachev wants greater role for Soviet economy

Italy, Moscow sign a series of co-operation accords

MILAN, Italy, Dec 2. (Agencies): Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said yesterday he was committed to increasing his country's role in the world economy.

"The experience of the past has demonstrated to us that development of the Soviet Union requires organic integration into world economic ties," Gorbachev said in a speech to Italian businessmen in Milan.

Ending a three-day visit to Italy, the Soviet leader said: "Our economic reform is going through a crucial moment. We are decisively destroying the administrative-bureaucratic system."

"Perestroika will be realised. There is no turning back. We start from the premise that the formation of a pan-European economy does not reduce the existing ties in the world economy."

Italy and the Soviet Union signed a series of co-operation accords on Thursday. Several joint ventures with Italian

private and public groups also were finalised.

Gorbachev praised the framework agreement on economic co-operation signed by Moscow and the European Economic Community last week.

"It will be a concrete contribution to the pan-European process, a big step toward the formation of the European economic area," he said.

Referring to Soviet plans to convert part of its arms industry to civil purposes, he said this was a "complex and very complicated process that involves many sectors of society."

"In the beginning, the transformation of the defence industry to a civil one will not be cheap, but in the future the advantages will be enormous."

The Soviet Union, on the eve of the summit meeting between President Bush and Gorbachev, bought 900,000 metric tons of US corn and soybean meal, the Agriculture Department said yesterday.

The purchases marked the

second major purchase by the Kremlin in two days and strengthened the Soviet Union's role as a major customer for US grain. It was the single largest export market for US grain last fiscal year.

In the latest deal, the Kremlin bought 800,000 tons of American-grown corn and 100,000 tons of soybean meal. The commodities were worth about \$92 million, based on prices at the Chicago Board of Trade.

On Thursday, the Kremlin bought about \$150 million worth of corn and soybean meal — 1.4 million tons of corn and 150,000 tons of soybean meal.

The purchases fulfilled speculation among grain traders that the Kremlin would buy at least 2 million tons of corn before Bush and Gorbachev meet at Malta.

The sales also highlighted the importance of meetings next Tuesday and Wednesday in Moscow. US and Soviet officials will discuss grain trade between

the superpowers so far this trade year and hold the first round of talks toward writing a new long-term grain agreement between the nations.

Since 1976, the superpowers have relied on long-term agreements to regulate the grain trade. The agreements specify minimum purchases each year by the Soviets. The current agreement, which requires the Soviets to buy at least 9 million tons of grain each year, expires Dec 31, 1990.

The Soviet Union has been a grain importer since the early 1970s as part of efforts to improve livestock production and the diet of its citizens.

In fiscal 1989, the Kremlin bought a record 21.7 million tons of US corn and wheat.

In the two months since fiscal 1990 began, it has purchased 10.3 million tons of corn, 705,000 tons of soybean meal, 160,700 tons of soybeans and 7,100 tons of barley. It has not purchased any US wheat although a US offer to subsidize sales remains in effect.

By June, when signs of a slump emerged, the

## Expansion plans to continue

Emirates to serve 5 new destinations

DUBAI, Dec 2. Emirates, the international airline of the UAE, will serve five new destinations next year and will increase capacity on the daily London route, it was announced in Dubai yesterday.

The award-winning carrier, which celebrated its fourth anniversary last month (October) with the announcement that it will buy five more Airbus, will begin services to Bangkok, Manila, Singapore and Baghdad from June 1 and to Manchester from September 1.

At the same time, it will operate a new 223-seats Airbus A330-600R on the daily Gatwick service instead of the present A310.

On the Far East route, Emirates will operate A310s twice-weekly to Manila via Bangkok and to Singapore via Colombo.

Maurice Flanagan, the airline's managing director, said: "The rapid growth of the Far Eastern economies makes our presence in these markets essential. Emirates' intention is always to create new traffic and we anticipate a significant increase in business, tourist and labour movements between Dubai and these points."

Deputy managing director Sultan Dhivay added: "The

extra capacity on the London route will also be a major benefit, adding more than 40 seats. The extended range A300-600R will carry 223 passengers in a three-class configuration of 18 first class seats, 42 business and 163 economy. Emirates has dropped eight seats from the standard A300-600R layout to give passengers an added degree of comfort."

The airline will take delivery of two A300-600Rs next year with a third in 1991. It has also agreed to buy three A310s and two high-capacity A330s which can accommodate 255 passengers in a three-class layout. It will be the first airline in the Middle East to fly the ultra-sophisticated A330.

The central bank starting nudging rates down, with the most recent cut coming in November. Fixed-rate mortgages, for instance, averaged 10.1 per cent at the beginning of October and finished the month at 9.82 per cent, according to the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

In October, residential construction, which accounts for nearly half of all building activity, rose 0.9 per cent to an annual rate of 193.6 billion, reversing a 0.9 per cent drop in September. Single-family construction rose 0.8 per cent in October after falling 1 per cent a month earlier, while multifamily building gained 1.8 per cent after dropping 3.0 per cent.

The gain in single-family activity ended a string of eight consecutive monthly declines.

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## EVENTS



The Needle



The Manservant



Adventures of Quentin Durward.

## New Faces of Soviet Cinema

SOVIET actress Olga Kobo and director Alexander Kordon took part in the opening of the "New Faces of Soviet Cinema" festival, which opened yesterday.

The festival, which has been organised by Cine Club, will be held at the Chamber

of Commerce and Industry.

It opens with the Adventure of Quentin Durward, based on a novel by Walter Scott. A romantic historical, it examines the mechanism of power through the story of Quentin and Isabella. Olga Kobo stars

in this film.

Other Soviet films to be shown during the weeklong festival are: "Sentenced" (Dec 3); "The Needle" (Dec 4), starring Victor Tsoi; "The Villain" (Dec 5), starring Gasanga Turabov; and "The Manservant"

(Dec 6), starring Oleg Borisov and Irina Rozanova.

All movies are subtitled. Screenings start at 7.30 pm at the chamber of commerce auditorium. Children are not admitted.

### WHAT'S ON

#### ARTS

##### Seminar

THERE will be a seminar at the DAA on "Arabic & European Art in the Light of Zodiacal Symbolism" December 10, 1989 - January 10, 1990. Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am. Anyone wishing to register for this seminar may do so at the DAA during museum hours.

#### SOCIAL

##### Bhartiya Kala Sangam

A family get-together for members of Bhartiya Kala Sangam will be held at the Indian Embassy premises on Thursday, Dec 7, 1989 at 7.30 pm. There will be an entertainment programme including "fancy dress competition" for children, lucky draw, and sumptuous buffet for members. Lots of prizes and surprises await for one and all. For details please contact tel. 5628171, 2551305.

##### Variety Show

UPKAAR is a newly formed non-profit cultural group of Hindi/Urdu speaking expatriates in Kuwait. Upkaar, whose aim is to promote art, culture and literature is going to hold an inaugural variety entertainment programme at Al Sharq Co-operative Auditorium comprising of dances, dramas, musical items and pantomimes on December 15 at 6.00 pm. This will be followed by a buffet dinner. Interested persons may contact 4880965 or 2615515.

##### United Goans Centre

SANTA Claus is coming to town on December 15 at the Al Salam Hotel in the Al Deira Hall exactly at 9.30 am, with loads of gifts and sweets for all your children. Make your presence at the United Goans Centre's X'mas party. A unique fancy dress parade for children and lots of surprises awaits the young and the old. Lively music from the "Next of Kin." For further information contact Tony 2612024 or Moses 2424293.

##### NRI General Body Meeting

NRI Investors Forum holding annual G.B. meeting at Indian embassy on December 15 at 11.00 am. Investment speakers specially invited from India. Also presentation of NRI of the Year trophy. Followed by complimentary lunch for members.

#### X'mas tree '89

CHRISTMAS is for children, and what better way to celebrate it with the New Goans Overseas Association at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel (the new Al-Mirage Ballroom) on the 15th of December 1989. Highlights include "carol singing competition" (4 local schools participating), games for children, novelty dance and music by the Stepping Stones. Santa Claus will be distributing gifts to all the kids. For reservations contact Anthony on tel. 5621968 (after 6.00 pm) or Julio.

#### X'mas tree

DEC 15: Flying Arrows Sporting Centre once again invites their members and guests to their annual X'mas tree function, to be held at the Carlton Tower Hotel from 11.30am onwards. Asumptuous buffet, gifts galore, exciting games and live music by the "Neighbuzz". Awaits one and all. Added attraction, Leo the Magician is to perform at 12.00pm sharp.

#### Musical Evening

"UPASANA" one of the leading musical groups is conducting their 6th musical programme on Friday, December 22 at 5.30 pm at Fumatees. The programme contains most of the latest hit songs from Hindi, Tamil and Malayalam. For entry passes please contact Tel. 3987249/ 3986956/ 3986956/ 5638762/4315374/4314018.

#### Kuchipudi Dance

THERE will be a lecture demonstration for Kuchipudi Dance by Dr Raja Reddy and Dr Radha Reddy on 4th December '89 at 9 am for all the Indian School children and on 5th December '89 at 8 pm for the public at Indian Arts Circle Auditorium. All are cordially invited.

#### Computer Courses

THE Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold their Computer course on Friday, December 8 at Kabayan Restaurant from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. The computer course will cover the DOS, Lotus 123, Wordstar and Data Base III+ and will run for five (5) Fridays. The successful participants will be given a Certificate of Attendance after completion of the basic course in computer.

The lectures for the said course are, Joel Bonecillo, computer engineer of Kay &

#### NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait  
Dubai Pharmacy  
Wajef market  
Hawalli & Negra  
Al Najah Pharmacy  
Nugra, Beirut St.  
Salmya & Rumeithiya  
Naheb Pharmacy  
Baghdad St.  
Fahsheej & Ahmed  
Safaf Pharmacy  
Fahsheej, Makkah St.  
Kleitaa  
Al Hayat Pharmacy  
Ibn Zuhair St.  
Jahra  
Al Najah Pharmacy  
4th Area

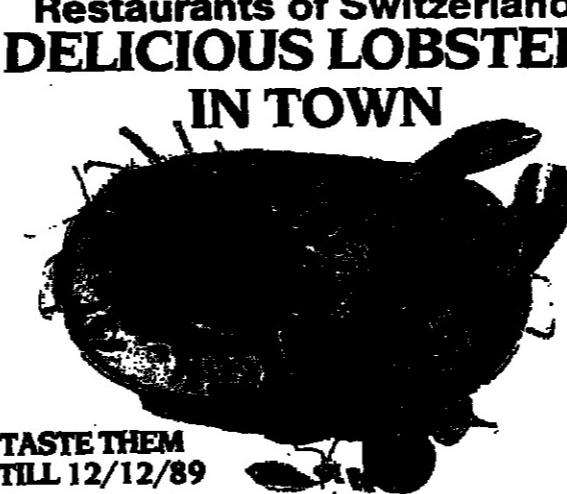
pm. Details from S. Hill 5391720 or G. Adams 5644533.

## Kapilku meeting

THE Kapisanang Pilipino sa Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold their officer's meeting on Monday, Dec 4 at Kabayan Restaurant at 8.00 pm. Topics to be discussed are as follows:

1. Computer course (DOS, Lotus 123, Wordstar and Data Base III+)
2. Pasko sa Kuwait '89 (awitan kita/Filipino song festival, fashion show by all candidates of Hiwas ng Pilipinas — Kuwait with their beautiful gowns and barong Tagalog for men);
3. Bayanihan (Christmas gifts distribution);
4. General election Jan 12, 1990;

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### CINEMA

Al Andalus  
Shock Troop  
Salmiyah  
Hall booked  
Al Hamra  
Arabic film  
Drive-In  
Arabic film  
Al Firdous  
Disciples of Shaolin Master  
Fahsheej Open  
Mohabbat ki Kasam  
Fahsheej  
2019 after the  
fall of New York  
Al Jabra  
Arabic film  
Granada  
Bade Ghari ki Beti  
Salaibikhat  
Imagine John Lennon  
Jleeb  
Arabic film  
Ahmadi Drive-In  
The Rescue.

### PRAYERS

Fajr	5.02 am
Zohr	11.38
Asr	2.30 pm
Maghreb	4.49
Isha	6.11

• All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaihi. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

## An evening of classical music

WORLD-renowned opera singer Araxia Davtian accompanied by the internationally famous pianist Diana Krtschian will have a concert on Dec 4, at the Kuwait International Hotel. Pieces from Verdi, Bellini and Vivaldi will be played. Davtian, a soprano, made her European and American debuts in 1987. She is a graduate of the Yerevan State Conservatory and a popular soloist with Armenian radio and television. She has sung in the Rotterdam Philharmonic's Mozart Festival and in 1990 will appear at the Mozarteum in Salzburg. It was in Mozart too that she created a sensation in the American press when she toured with the Moscow virtuosi last October.

Diana Krtschian, a pianist, also took her degree from the Yerevan Conservatory where she currently serves as professor of piano. She has worked extensively as an accompanist for many distinguished singers, and has participated in numerous international competitions. At the Viotti competition in 1984, she was awarded first prize for her collaboration with first prize winner Araxia Davtian.

The evening includes a reception dinner and the concert is being organised by Boodai Aviation and Kuwait International.



### TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

#### KTV 1

##### MORNING PERIOD

9.30 The opening and Holy Quran  
9.40 Sabah Al Kher, News and variety  
9.50 Cartoon serial  
10.05 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)  
10.15 Baat Min Waraq: Arabic serial (part 5)  
11.15 Sabah Al Kher, News and Variety  
11.30 That's Incredible: Variety programme  
12.30 News Summary  
12.35 Holy Quran and Closedown

##### EVENING PERIOD

4.00 The opening and Holy Quran  
4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)  
4.45 Cartoon serial (part 11)  
5.15 Cartoons  
5.45 Night chemists, airlines and officials advertisements  
6.00 Al Islam Hadhara: religious serial (part 23)  
7.15 Diwaniyat Shuara Al Nabat: Local programme  
8.00 Hiwar Elmi: Cultural Programme, presented by Yousef Al Sul

tan. Prepared by Kuwait Chemists Society

8.00 News in English  
8.30 Bergerac: "Come out Fighting". As Bergerac makes his first acquaintance with notorious jewel thief Philippe Vale, he has to investigate the strange disappearance of a boxer's wife.

9.30 Sea Power. Gun-Boat". The role-played by armed gunboats in the navy... watching coastal territorial and international waters as well as monitoring fishing boats and fishing activities...

10.00 The Robert Guillaume Show. "A Piece of Rock" "Ann". Dr Edward's secretary presents him a piece of stone which she considers as a charm for Luck!!

10.30 Bestseller "Troubles" Part II. The officer returns to Ireland where he plans to marry another Irish girl, but customs and traditions as well as religious difference make marriage impossible...

12.00 News in Brief  
12.15 Magazine D'Actualite

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# Thailand has a lot to offer

Temples ... pagodas ... golden Buddhas ... misty mountains ... beaches

By George Cherian  
Arab Times staff

Besides night life, Thailand has a lot of other attractions to lure tourists. Misrepresentation made Bangkok synonymous to sex tourists, which is not the fact. To prove its point Thailand recently arranged a visit of journalists from Kuwait to its different tourist attractions. The tour was arranged in co-operation with the Kuwait Airways Corporation.

DURING the past few years, Thailand has established itself as a major international holiday destination. Even the word Thailand evokes many delicious images. Bangkok's vibrant, almost legendary nightlife tops the list of those images in any eigner's mind.

But the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) wants to project other attractions like the glittering temples, glorious beaches, misty mountains, pagodas and majestic golden Buddhas. Senior officials of the tourism authority told the Arab Times that even families and single women can visit Thailand. There are a lot of attractions for them too.

Most wives do not like their husbands to go to Bangkok for a holiday because it is known as a paradise for bachelors. Many of the tourists are eager for the flesh-pots of Bangkok where pretty girls are waiting to please them.

The Public Relations Director Sumonita Nakornthab said that news coverage in Europe often focuses only on sex tourism in Thailand. "We do not deny that we have it. But sex does not play a major role in Thai tourism. It is only a small spot in the tourism graph. Don't blow it up, keep a balance in news coverage", she requested.

But another official who wants to remain unidentified said that the sex industry at least triggers off growth in the cosmetic and clothing trades.

Many Thais who voiced the concern about the assault on their traditions from outside, found the flesh trade the most unacceptable aspect of foreign tourism. However, tourists find the guide books, newspapers and magazines still carry liberal quantities of "where to find it" sex advertisements.

Sumonita has given more accent on glorious tradition and other tourist attractions. Thailand has colourful floating markets, palm-fringed beaches, saffron-robed monks moving serenely through tropical landscapes, royal barges flowing along picturesque waterways, classical Siamese dances, traditional Thai cuisines, Thai boxing known for its use of fists, elbows, feet and knees, ancient cities and archaeological wonders, exotic waterfalls, mirrormlike seas, precious gemstones, and a lot more. The list is simply endless.

Sumonita said that the tourism authority recently launched a large campaign to attract single ladies and honeymoon-goers. "We invited a group of travel agents from Japan who deal particularly with single ladies. Our government studied the market situation and prepared a new package for honeymoon trips," she said.

Literally translated, Thailand means "land of the free" an appropriate epithet since the Thais cherish their independence. Indeed it was the only country in this region to have escaped European colonial domination.

Strategically located almost mid-way between India and China, Thailand has always been an important migratory, cultural and religious crossroad, a role it



Sumonita Nakornthab: emphasis



Elephants are intelligent. Cherian is being greeted before the start of a ride



The bridge on the River Kwai.



A historic temple besides the river.



A snake charmer carries three live snakes, two in his hands and the third one in his mouth.

still plays today. Indeed Thailand is a country of golden places and smiling faces.

#### Death railway

The Japanese Army wanted a route to transport troops and supplies between Burma and Thailand at the peak of World War II. A new railroad was constructed from the Southern Railway of Thailand, passing through Kanchanaburi, crossing the Kwae Noi River into Burma.

The construction began in October 1942 and was completed a year later. They built a bridge to cross the Kwai Yai River. Workers for this railroad project were prisoners-of-war, mostly from Britain. Such a tremendous num-

ber of these prisoners-of-war lost their life from hunger, disease, and hard labour that the name Death Railway was given to it.

Almost at the end of the war, the Allies bombed the bridge over the River Kwai. A noted film was named after this incident. But the film was not made in Thailand and it did not give the real picture, even though the film gave a lot of publicity to the bridge and it became known all over the world. According to the film the bridge was exploded but actually it was bombed from above.

**War museum**

Even now the Thai authorities keep the original train which the Japanese used during the war.

There is also a war museum in a small thatched-roofed hut.

The prisoners-of-war who died during the construction of the Death Railway are buried in two cemeteries, Kanchanaburi cemetery is behind the railway station and 6,982 Allied soldiers were buried there. The other one the Khao Poon cemetery was originally the site of one of the main prisoners-of-war camps located on the right bank of the Kwai River, and 1,750 soldiers were buried there.

Centuries of absolute monarchy ended with the revolution of 1932, and the King today reigns but does not rule. However, the king is still regarded by Thais as one of the three pillars of the

nation, the others being the land and the Buddhist faith. The concept of monarchy remains the overwhelming force that binds the nation.

Located on the banks of the Chao Phraya River, Bangkok, the capital spreads across a flat plain and represents the blend of old tradition and modern progress.

The skyline is dominated by thrusting high-rise office buildings, luxury hotels, department stores and shopping complexes. But this is just one aspect of Bangkok. It is indeed the Orient's most exotic capital. The modern buildings do not obliterate a wealth of monuments to traditional glories.

#### Grand Palace

The Grand Palace located in an area of 61 acres, is surrounded by strong white-washed walls with ports and gates on four sides. This compound is divided into four main sections. The outer court to the east is the site of the Royal Temple of the Emerald Buddha. Official buildings are on the west side. The middle ground is where a group of throne halls and various royal buildings are located. The inner court behind the throne halls contains quarters for the king and queen and ladies of the court now no longer in use.

In the soaring roofs and tapering gilded spires of the Grand Palace, Temple of the Emerald Buddha, Temple of Dawn and the rest of Bangkok's more than 400 Buddhist Temples, you are presented with images of Oriental splendour. Contained within such monuments are masterpieces of sculpture, paintings and decorative arts.

Once you begin to explore Bangkok you will realize just how much there is to discover. The scope for sightseeing is nearly endless. The national museum is not to be missed.

Exploring the Chao Phraya River, and the small canals of Thonburi give further insights into the history and character of Bangkok. But those canals passing through the downtown area are dirty and polluted.

When you consider the entertainment and nightlife Bangkok has something for everyone from displays of classical Thai dance to cocktail lounges and discos with the latest high-tech sound and light systems. The choice is wide open.

At the top of anyone's shopping list should be Thai silk and gems and jewellery. Silk is a traditional material now produced in a wide range of colour and design. Bangkok is also a world centre for coloured gemstones. Rubies and sapphires are mined in Thailand while other stones are imported for cutting and setting.

Thailand has at least 300,000 cutters, making it the world's biggest gem market.

Garments, leather goods, Thai Burmese and Khmer antiques, handicrafts in teakwood, ceramic, and bronze are other shopping attractions.

At Rose Garden, a country resort and cultural centre you can see the traditional Thai life.

In the western suburbs is Siam water park, an aquatic playground which the children will love, especially on a hot day.

Pattaya, located on the east of the Gulf of Thailand, a two-hour drive from Bangkok, is a phenomenon. Colourful and alive with activity, Pattaya is unrivalled as a beach resort. It is in a class of its own, offering more attractions than any other single destination in Southeast Asia. Day and night it presents a lot of fun and thrills. It's amazing choice of water sports and shore-based recreation and entertainment that ensure there can never be a dull moment.



A Thai girl presenting a classical dance.

## Pop out for baby love

Estefan giving up music for another child

HER world tour has been a triumph. After 10 years of desperate struggle, Gloria Estefan's career is really on a high.

She has had four hit singles from one album and has been named Songwriter of the Year.

But all the 32-year-old queen of Latin pop wants is love — baby love. She has told her husband she is giving music one more year before she drops out to have another child.

There is nothing new in the passion that has gripped women before her from Sophia Loren and Susan Hampshire to Suzi Quatro, Meryl Streep, Sandra Dickinson, Linda Hamilton, Tina Turner and Yasmin Le Bon.

Men are not immune from the urge. Just ask Jack Nicholson or Queen's Freddie Mercury. And it does not dull with time.

For 20 years Shirley Valentine star Pauline Collins mourned daily loss of the baby she gave away.

What is new is the way baby love has come out of the closet. Top photographers have taken to using chubby infants as the most chic of accessories. A spate of films — Three Men and a Baby, Baby Boom, Maybe Baby, She's Having A Baby — have celebrated the trend.

Which only serves to pile on the agony for the would-be mums for whom nature refuses to play ball.

So desperate was top model Yasmin Le Bon after two miscarriages that she gave up £250,000 worth of work rather than chance with her third pregnancy — with Duran Duran heart-throb Simon Le Bon's blessing.

Yasmin, 24, said: "There are some things that are much more important than money. During my previous two pregnancies, I continued working but this time I don't want to take any risks."

"Simon and I are determined nothing will go wrong this time."

The arrival of daughter Amber Rose was everything they hoped for and more. Yasmin took one look and vowed that she would be working less from now on.

Sandra Dickinson, actress wife of TV vet and former Dr Who actor Peter Davidson, knows how she felt. They wanted children for years, but said Sandra, "it just never happened. We had all the tests but doctors couldn't find any reason why I shouldn't conceive."

No sooner had the couple booked up for a test-tube baby consultation than Sandra discovered she was expecting!

Baby Georgina was born on Christmas Day, 1984. "The most beautiful Christmas present anybody could ever wish for," her delighted mother said.

It is different for Gloria Estefan. She and co-songwriter husband Emilio Estefan have a son, Nayib. While Gloria was on tour, Emilio had to leave the band he founded 14 years ago to stay home with their eight-year-old son.

"What mother doesn't worry about her children becoming involved with drugs?" she asks. "It's their choice. If they want to experiment, they'll do it although I would soon find out what they're doing. I watch, I watch."

Another of Hubert de Watteville's successes in his mission to help women conceive was the late mega-rich Christina Onassis whose life, friends said, was dominated by her desire to have a baby.

She finally managed to conceive in her fourth doomed marriage to Thierry Roussel. They parted but little Athina Onassis is now living with her father, his Swedish model girlfriend Gaby Landhage and their two children.

The four-year-old singer-actress-TV presenter, whose husband is guitarist Len Tuckey, says: "We had been trying for more than two years before we sought medical help. In the end getting pregnant becomes the best and end-all of your life."

"Every single time we made love, you think 'Is this it? Is tonight the night?' You get desperate."

She finally became pregnant on fertility drugs — only to miscarry at three months. But luck was finally with her. Within six months of that heartbreaking, Laura was on the way. And Suzi gave up jumping around on stage for fear of losing her.

Sophia Loren went further. The actress' life became ruled by her obsession to have a baby. And when her Swiss obstetrician, Hubert de Watteville, died years later, she was devastated.

She said: "I have lost the greatest friend of my whole life. Without him, I would have been a woman without a child — surely the saddest thing in the entire world."

Even with all his skill, the price had been high. Sophia had to spend the whole of both pregnancies lying still for fear of miscarrying.

Her life still revolves around Carlo Jr, now 20, and 15-year-old Eduardo. She divides her time between Los Angeles where Carlo is studying music and Geneva where Eduardo attends the English college. She worries about them all the time.

"I'm not quite ready to be an old lady," she says. "While I'm still able to, I'd like to try for a baby girl."

The father would be her lover of three years, German record executive producer Erwin Bach, 16 years her junior.

French actress Meryl Streep has given up the stage for her children, Mary Willa, nine, Henry, eight, and Grace, five.

"I haven't been able to think of doing things in the theatre," she says. "If I were in a play, I'd be leaving for work right when they came home from school. If you have children, you come home and they demand your attention."

They have, she says, had a profound influence on her life. "The day they were born, I started worrying. Doesn't every mother? And I never stop."

Linda Hamilton, blonde star of TV's *Beauty and the Beast*, is giving up the role for the love of her unborn child.

## Voces from Baliapal reverberate

### Award-winning film highlights a protest

PANOS: In the Indian community of Baliapal, south of Calcutta, 70,000 villagers are mounting a sustained campaign against the government's plans to evict them from their richly fertile farmlands in order to build a missile testing range. Now they are also the subject of an award-winning documentary, *Voces from Baliapal*, by film-makers Vasudha Joshi and Ranjan Palit. The film had its European premiere at the Ecovision '89 Festival in France earlier this year.

Proposals for the missile range were first revealed by the government in 1984. Since then, the local community has used a combination of blockades and direct action to deny officials access to the area and thwart attempts to implement eviction plans.

As Joshi explains: "One of the

most striking things about their campaign is that it's based on non-violent, Gandhian principles.

In the film, groups of villagers cluster around the camera to affirm their determination to hold onto their homes. "To us, this land is like gold!" exclaims an elderly farmer. "How can they expect us to give it up?"

Others deride the government's offer of compensation: "Would they give up their birthplace if someone offered them money?" demands a young man. "Of course not."

Other tactics used by the government — including leaflets dropped from helicopters — are satirised by community theatre groups, formed by local people to spread the story of their resistance to wider audiences.

The villagers' campaign is almost wholly self-reliant, with

little involvement from outside.

As Joshi points out: "This contrasts with several other protest movements against mass evictions, which are often inspired or led by outside agitators."

Over the years, villagers have become sceptical of local politicians who seek election on the back of a commitment to oppose the range — a commitment which all too often evaporates once they are elected.

The villagers decry the hypocrisy of the international forums, while forging ahead with a costly high-technology weapons research programme at home, of which one side-effect would be the expulsion of the people of Baliapal from their homeland.

"*Voces from Baliapal*" impresses the viewer with the courage of its subjects. Last year, it won India's National Award for the Best Film on Social Issues. The Ministry of Information had earlier promised that all films which won such awards would be broadcast nationally on state television. In the case of *Voces from Baliapal*, however, this is unlikely to happen. As Palit points out: "They simply will not show controversial subjects on state TV."

Despite this restriction, the film has been seen widely in India, at local film festivals and through screenings by other groups of activists.

Joshi and Palit are particularly pleased that it is being used in this way. "Baliapal has had a fair amount of press coverage," Joshi says. "But when people see a film, it just comes across much more clearly."

It is different for Gloria Estefan. She and co-songwriter husband Emilio Estefan have a son, Nayib. While Gloria was on tour, Emilio had to leave the band he founded 14 years ago to stay home with their eight-year-old son.

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Rock star Linda Hamilton with daughter Laura Susan.

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**DODGE** Dart 1984, red, 52000 kms, two doors, automatic, AC, stereo cassette and radio. Driven by a lady, in excellent condition. KD950. Tele. 2528240. (AT2-Yous-TM-3)

**MITSUBISHI** Colt, 1981, automatic, red, in very good condition. Tele. 5519985, res. (AT6-50548-3)

**AUDI** 100 CD 1984, fully automatic, 62,000 kms, red, in excellent condition. KD1650. 2461350-1 mornings and 9033410 afternoons. (AT2-50450-3)

**OLDSMOBILE** Delta '88, Brougham, 83 model, white, in excellent condition. KD1400. Tel. Mr. Joseph, 5312650-3, 8am-2pm.

**TOYOTA** Corona '87 model, purchased in 1988 direct from the agency KD2500 (negotiable). Tele. Abu Yakub, 5514758. 5526660 (AT2-50547-3)

**KAWASAKI** motorcycle KLR-650cc (trial 1989), in excellent condition, best offer in cash only. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele. Ivan, 5725095. 6 - 8 pm. (AT6-50513-3)

**MAID-NANNY** required immediately. Filipina, for a British family Tele 5610725. (AT2-50545-11)

**PIANO** second hand, preferably black Tele 5623154. (AT1-50523-2)

**SERVICES**  
**Transport**

REQUIRED immediately for a lady from Fintos to Salwa 7 am and back 2 pm Tele 3902964 or 3904887. (AT2-50542-2)

**Tuition**

**NURSERY** and KG classes, from 2 years of age, given by an experienced lady teacher at home. Makkah Street, Fahheel near the Indian School. Tel. 3925485. 8 am - 1 pm. (AT1-50504-3)

**NATIVE** French speaker, qualified teacher, offers French, English and Spanish tuition at your home if necessary. For details 3919579. (AT1-50507-3)

**Baby Sitting**

RELIABLE baby-sitting available with an experienced lady behind Qadisya Stadium. Tel. Florence, 2653758. (AT6-50520-3)

**AVAILABLE** in Old Khetan near the Granada Cinema behind the Iraqi Hotel Building No. 2. First floor, House No. 1. Tel. Rafeek, 431836 after 2pm. (AT6-50519-3)

**COOK** required (male or female), Indian, Bangladeshi or Pakistani for a small Kuwaiti family to cook Kuwaiti and European dishes. Salary according to experience. Tel. Mr. Faizi, 5714400, 8am-12 noon, 4-8 pm. (AT5-50530-3)

**MOTHERLY** care available with an experienced lady at Baghdad Street, Salmiya. Tel. Boney Kumar, 5625811. 4 - 8 pm. (AT2-50552-3)

**MAID-NANNY** required immediately. Filipina, for a British family Tele 5610725. (AT2-50545-11)

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## SPORTS

## Gurusinha hammers S. Australia

ADELAIDE, Australia, Dec 2. (Reuters): Asanka Gurusinha hit 109 against South Australia today to boost Sri Lankan morale ahead of the first cricket Test next week.

His stylish knock, compiled in 25 minutes, lifted the touring party to 274 for five at the close on the second day of a four-day match at the Adelaide Oval.

After the virtual wash-out on the opening day when only nine overs were possible, Gurusinha prospered in the fine weather before being run out in the final session.

Both openers had been bowled by paceman Colin Miller with only 31 on the board when Gurusinha and Aravinda de Silva (54) took command with a third wicket partnership of 124 in 13 minutes.

Each man played in Melbourne District Cricket last season. De Silva topping the batting averages, and seemed to profit from the experience.

Substitute fieldsmen Brett Williams ended Gurusinha's innings with a brilliant throw soon after coming onto the ground to replace spinner Peter Selvam, who earlier bowled De Silva.

Exciting prospect Sanath Jayasuriya (37) and Hashan Tillekeratne (23) safely saw the tourists to the close with an unbroken 54-run stand. Jayasuriya hit six fours.

Meanwhile Sri Lanka captain Arjuna Ranatunga, out with hairline fracture to the hand, will have a fitness test on Monday. He said his chances of playing in the first Test, starting on Friday, had improved substantially.

## Scoreboard

SRI LANKA first innings	
R. Mahanama b Miller	10
D. Ranatunga b Miller	8
A. Gurusinha run out	109
Aravinda de Silva b Steer	54
A. Samarakera run out	26
H. Tillekeratne not out	23
S. Jayasuriya not out	37
Extras (b-2 nb-2 w-3)	7
Total (for five wickets)	274
Fall of wickets: 1-16 2-31 3-155 4-205 5-220	
To bat: R. Ratnayake, Asoka de Silva, G. Labrooy, C. Ramarayake, Bowling: (to date) Gladigau 17-3-5-0 (2nb), Miller 25-7-49-2, Zesers 12-4-30-0, Steep 33-14-70-3 (3w), Francis 21-1-72-0, Hookes 1-0-0.	



Manjrekar (right) with Shastri

## Indian batsmen slam Pakistanis

# Manjrekar hits double century

LAHORE, Pakistan, Dec 2. (Agencies): Sanjay Manjrekar hit a double century today as India batted their way to a commanding position on the second day of the third cricket Test against Pakistan.

Manjrekar, playing only his eighth Test, scored 218 in nearly nine hours, the highest score by an Indian against Pakistan. He now has 493 runs in the series so far.

At the close India, 255 for three overnight, were 458 for five.

Manjrekar, the 23-year-old son of former Test player Vijay, resumed on 132. He hit 28 fours in a stylish innings before he was run out in a slick piece of fielding by Abdul Qadir off his own bowling while trying for a quick single just before tea.

Ravi Shastri helped Manjrekar add 186 runs for the fourth wicket, second only to Vijay Manjrekar and Vijay Hazare's stand of 222 against England at Headingly in 1952.

Shastri was finally dismissed for 61 when he mistimed a drive and offered an easy catch to Javed Miandad off debutant pace bowler Shahid Maheboob.

The toiling Pakistan bowlers could make no further breakthrough before the close as Manoj Prabhakar and 16-year-old

Shastri and Manjrekar built on that stand and have now put

Bombay schoolboy Sachin Tendulkar took full advantage of the benign pitch at the Khaddafi stadium.

Prabhakar was not out 44, including a six off leg-spinner Qadir, while Tendulkar had scored 34.

All the Pakistani bowlers suffered with captain Imran Khan conceding 108 runs for his solitary wicket taken early on the first day.

The Bombay-born Manjrekar has shown an excellent form from the start of the Indian tour of Pakistan. This is his second hundred of the series and third of his eight Test career.

Manjrekar showed his potential against the West Indies early this year, during India's four Tests against that team and he has blossomed in the current series. He scored an unbeaten 113 in the opening Test followed by scores of 76 and 83 in the second.

Yesterday India had started their innings badly by losing their first two wickets with only five runs on the board. It was only Mohammed Azharuddin and Manjrekar who put the Indians back into the game with a defiant stand of 149.

Shastri and Manjrekar built on that stand and have now put

India in a position from where they cannot lose. India will be looking for a total of nearly 600 before they put Imran's side to bat.

This is the first time that Indians have been in a commanding position. In the first two Tests they have had to fight back after surrendering the initiative at the start of the game.

But India have shown remarkable improvement with every match that they have played and given an appropriate answer to the critics who had predicted that this side would be brushed aside by the strong Pakistanis.

INDIA first innings (overnight 255 for three):

K. Srikkanth b Wasim Akram 0

N. Sidhu lbw b Imran 218

S. Manjrekar run out 218

M. Azharuddin c Abbasi 20

b Maheboob 77

R. Shastri c Miandad b Maheboob 61

M. Prabhakar not out 34

S. Tendulkar not out 44

Extras (b-4 lb-13 nb-2 w-1) 20

Total (for five wickets) 458

Fall of wickets: 1-2 2-5 3-154 4-340 5-375

To bat: Kapil Dev, Kiran More, Arshad Ayub, Maninder Singh, Bowring to date: Imran Khan 4-12-108-1, Wasim Akram 24-6-65-1, Shahid Maheboob 47-11-121-2, Akram Raza 18-3-56-0, Abdul Qadir 26-5-86-0, Salim Malik 1-0-2-0, Aamer Malik 1-0-3-0.

## Langston signs \$16m contract

ANAHEIM, Calif., Dec 2. (Reuter): Free agent Pitcher Mark Langston became the highest paid player in baseball history yesterday when he signed a five-year, guaranteed contract worth \$16 million with the California Angels.

The signing of Langston, 29, capped a week of furious spending by Major teams that saw two other players reach the \$3 million per year mark in salary.

Kirby Puckett was first to reach that level when he signed a three-year deal with the Minnesota Twins. Fellow-outfielder Rickey Henderson wrung a fourth year at the three million rate from the World Series champions Oakland Athletics.

The signing of Langston, 29,



## Salwa hold Salmiya

By Sony Mariano

AFTER two weeks of domination by the favoured teams, the underdogs started to show their worth in the PBA White League with Salwa-Al Rasheed Freight leading the main race and the likely title Salimiya-NTC 2-2.

The main man of the Freight Movers was Wally Flores who scored a 3 games series of 577. Helping him carry the load were Beda Borja, Saad, Bilal, Joe Bilog, Angie Borja, Rene Cabardo, Milo Coronado and Arce Ruiz.

In the other encounter on Thursday between Kuwait City-Araiyah Rest and Yarmouk Tecton, Kuwait City finally came out victorious after their two drawn games during the last two weeks. Leading scorers for Araiyah were Willy Sabay (549), Flor Tongson (530) and Eva Salay with 474.

Tecton's losing streak was gallantly led by Vic Choong (533), Osman (476) and Koma with 472.

The third game on Friday also was an upset of some sort as Al Soon-Najd Cargo stunned the Salwa-NTC Traders who went down to their second defeat in as many days. Nasir with 547, Saleh (525) and Arcent Bomollo with 521 led the Cargo Forwarders to their best showing so far. The bewildered Traders had to rely on Asukul, Ernie and Joe to salvage one point. The final tally was 3-1 for Al Soor.

Meanwhile, Kuwait City continued their hot streak as they rolled to their second win in two days after defeating the Mahbola-Jokers 3 games to 1. L. Salih (550), Willy (528) and Danny (518) were the main ingredients in Kuwait City-Araiyah Rest's 2-0 road showing while Beda Borja came from Beda Port (525), Skip Stonemore hit 533 and Benny Mitchell with 465.

The games played in the afternoon saw defending champs Shuwalch-Chiquita upending Surra-Magnolia/Far East 3 games to 1. The Banana Magnates who are now way on top of the standings have Nafiz (560) and Lando Maradona (563) as their best Banana growers. Magnolia/Far East means consist of Mars Ballo (544), Kamal Attia (532) and Eva Guzman with 519.

Going into the bowling action at the other lanes, Fahe-NTC B finally scored their first victory of the season at Kaitfin-BMW. The junior traders got their first taste of victory through the efforts of Ceho Estrada (560) and Manny Regalado who scored 503. The BMW Speedsters have Nasif (540), Waheed (498) and Cora Paras with (447).

In the last set of games scheduled on Friday, Jahriya-Shakaya Pizza shook off the challenge coming from Yarmouk Tecton to eke out a 3-1 win. The best toppings for the Pizza Makers were Ed Delon (542), Khaled (528) and Caloy Abesiano who scored 495. Tecton relied on Vic Choong with 581 with help coming from Koma (495) and Bogo (441). And finally in the match of the day, Salwa-Al Rasheed Freight beat the unlikely entry East Bank-Crest Corp's 3-1 by taking over in the standings. Arce Ruiz (527) and Milo Coronado carried the scoring burst for the Freight Movers while the Money Dealers was led by Rolly Galica (511), Jun (452) and Lee (452).

The Philippine Bowling Association in Kuwait (PBAK), its officers and members would like to request each and every member of the Filipino community in Kuwait to say a little prayer for our beloved country and families in the hope that the present crisis will soon be over so that peace and order will prevail in the days to come.

## Standings

	GP	TPP	W	L	Av.
Shuwalch-Chiquita	12	10163	14	2	847
Al Soon-Najd Cargo	9	7545	8	4	838
Kuwait City-Araiyah Restaurant	12	9844	10	2	820
Surra-Magnolia/Far East Rest	9	7681	7.5	4.5	852
Jahriya-Shakaya Pizza	12	9914	7.5	5	822
Salwa-NTC	15	12325	10	5	774
Yarmouk-Tecton	12	9395	8	4	783
Kaitfin-BMW	9	7211	3.5	5.5	801
Mahbola-Jokers II	9	7003	3.5	7.5	778
Fahe-NTC B	9	6617	3	9	735
Murgab-City Ind/Far East Bank	12	9433	3	13	786

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

## THE WIZARD OF ID



By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS

### Aries (March 20 - April 19)

You will have something to be pleased about, but do not become complacent. Take the opportunity to further your cultural interests. Avoid eating too many sweet things. Be sympathetic.

### Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You are more liable to spill things, so be extra careful. Avoid acting out spite or vengeance. Make sure you do not make things easy for burglars. Be reliable.

### Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You should try to take your mind off work for the day. Concern yourself more with family matters. Do not spend too much time glued to the television set. Be respectful.

### Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Avoid becoming involved in an argument between a friend and his partner. Instead do your best to make peace between them. Do not expect your children to be carbon copies of you. Be amenable.

### Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

If you leave things to the last minute there is a much bigger chance of being just too late. You should not exceed limits whether of speed or safety. Do not let others dictate to you, but nor should you dictate to them. Be more patient.

### Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

If you leave things to the last minute there is a much bigger chance of being just too late. You should not exceed limits whether of speed or safety. Do not let others dictate to you, but nor should you dictate to them. Be more patient.

### Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will tend to be rather forgetful so do your best to jog your memory. Something you thought you had got the better of will reassert itself. You will be disappointed just now if you expect something for nothing. Be generous.

Eat plenty of fruit and vegetables and try to eat only as much as you need to maintain a reasonable weight. Do not seek to gain at someone else's expense. Ensure you get all the rest you need. Be active.

### Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You are liable to act on impulse and that takes time to recover yourself. Make sure you do not spend more than you can readily afford. And do not spend in the expectation that you will have some good luck.

### Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 21)

You are liable to act on impulse and that takes time to recover yourself. Make sure you do not spend more than you can readily afford. And do not spend in the expectation that you will have some good luck.

</div

## SPORTS

## TENNIS

## Lendl lone backer of ITF's \$6m tournament

NEW YORK, Dec 2, (Reuters): World number one Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia has lined up against the other stars at the Masters tennis tournament by announcing his support for next year's Grand Slam Cup.

The International Tennis Federation (ITF), whose influence on the men's circuit has been usurped by the player's ATP Tour starting in January, plans to stage the \$6 million event December 10-16 in West Germany.

Most of the other world's top players have criticized the Cup as trying to undermine the new tour, whose season-ending championship is scheduled for Frankfurt, West Germany, in November. But Lendl says he welcomes it with open arms.

"I believe it's (the Grand Slam Cup) an attempt by the ITF to start another tour and I think it would be great for tennis to have two tours competing against each other," Lendl said.

Participants for the eight-man field are determined by the results in the four Grand Slam championships and Davis Cup matches.

"I'm hoping that one tour will be pushing the other to produce a better tour and that would be great for the public and the players," Lendl said.

Other top players, including world number two and Wimbledon champion Boris Becker, disagree.

"They said the ITF are organizing the event as a political exercise to divert attention away from the new player-run ATP tour which starts in the new year."

Other top players like Stefan Edberg, John McEnroe, Andre Agassi, Michael Chang, Brad Gilbert, and Aaron Krickstein also view the event as a potential arbitrage.

Their biggest concern is that the event will erode the importance of their own \$2 million ATP world championship.

"It is too much prize money in comparison to the other Grand Slam events as well as the other normal tennis tournaments," says Becker. "It's in our off season and three weeks after we have the final Masters tournament in Germany... it's too much tennis in Germany."

Becker continued: "I know why it's going to be held... to show who has power in the game. I think people should put their own egos aside and look more at the future of tennis."

The West German issued a veiled threat to Cup organisers.

"I don't play in my home country, I don't think the hall is going to be full."

Nevertheless, none of the players has said categorically they would boycott the event if they qualified.

## Lendl, Becker win

NEW YORK, Dec 2, (Reuters): With deadly accuracy from the service line, both Ivan Lendl and Boris Becker completed perfect records in the round-robin portion of the Masters tennis tournament yesterday to stay on course for a rematch in tomorrow's final.

Defending champion Becker overpowered third-ranked Stefan Edberg of Sweden 6-1 6-4 to win the ITC Nastase group and Lendl outplayed John McEnroe 6-3 6-3 to take the Rod Laver group title.

Berths in this evening's semifinals were decided on Thursday but yesterday's match determined the pairings.

Five-time champion Lendl takes on Edberg in a rematch of last year's semifinal, which the Czechoslovak won in straight sets. Becker was to play McEnroe, a three-time Masters champion, in the other semifinal of this \$3.1 million tournament.

"I thought I hit the ball well but I didn't mean too much today. It will be different tomorrow," said Lendl, winner of 10 titles this year including the Australian Open.

Becker, the Wimbledon and US Open champion, launched nine aces and faced just one break point in each set against Edberg, surviving both. The West German broke Edberg twice in the first set and once in the second.

"When you serve two aces a game like I did, it's almost impossible for the other guy to break me and then he has to worry about his own serve," said the

McEnroe, a three-time Masters champion, in the other semifinal of this \$3.1 million tournament.

"I believe he's the best player in the world this year," said Edberg, who lost the Wimbledon final to world number two Becker. "He's playing with a lot of confidence and he's playing better than ever from the back-court."

Lendl, who has lost his last four encounters with Becker including the US Open final and last year's five-set masters final, said it did not matter that yesterday's win kept him from facing Becker in the semifinals.

"If you want to win you have to beat everybody," Lendl said.

McEnroe, however, was not thrilled at the prospect of facing Becker in this evening's first match, set for 1730 GMT.

"Now I have to play Becker at 12:30 (local)," McEnroe moaned. "It's like going to a firing squad."

Durant has made it clear he will talk 'no mas' about that fight.

"Hey, come on, I've done enough in boxing," he says when the subject is brought up. "After the fight, we'll forget about 'no mas.'

He was never hurt but he turned to referee Octavio Meyran in the middle of the eighth round and said 'no mas.' The referee ordered them to continue, and Leonard landed a punch. Duran waved his right hand and repeated 'no mas.' The fight was over.

There are reminders of that fight everywhere. Promoter Bob Arum named Duran-Leonard III 'Uno mas,' a title that links Duran. And if Duran won't talk about 'no mas,' others will.

Nobody can explain it, however. Duran dropped his claim of stomach cramps long ago. Leonard, who teased and taunted Duran into surrender in the rematch of his bitter defeat five months earlier in Montreal, has his theory.

"I always said it was frustration, without realizing the ramifications it would have on the world," Leonard said. "But only Duran can answer that."

Duran refuses, leaving it to guesswork.

This much is clear: Roberto Duran was the last boxer anyone would expect to quit in the mid-

die of a fight. Entering the fight, he was 73-1 and had taken the World Boxing Council welterweight title from Leonard in his previous bout. Duran was a legend in his native Panama, he was considered among the great lightweights and the word 'macho' seemed made for him.

Leonard, who tried and failed to outslug Duran in Montreal, followed a new plan in New Orleans. He circled Duran, jabbed him, stuck out his chin in derision, wound up with his right hand and punched with his left. Duran was at first puzzled, then frustrated, finally angry.

"This is indeed a rubber match because Duran is the only man to defeat me," Leonard said. "He owes me one and I owe him one. It's just a fight to settle the score. It's a matter of pride."

Duran is responsible for entering two Spanish phrases into the American sports dictionary. The first, 'Manos de piedra,' symbolizes Duran's glory days. 'No mas' connotes his fall. Even if things go right for him Thursday night and Duran again comes to be known as 'Hands of stone,' the phrase 'no mas' will live.

And Duran is not the only man haunted by those two words.

"It's become a joke, part of a monologue," Leonard said. "There will always be certain innuendos about the fight. Kids on the street say 'no mas,' it becomes a joke. And my career's no joke."

Although he announced his retirement after the 'no mas' fight, Duran would have jumped

at an offer for an immediate rematch. He returned to Panama a disgraced man. He achieved a measure of redemption by knocking out Davey Moore for the World Boxing Association 154-pound (70 kg) title in 1983 and finally gained a rematch with Leonard by taking the WBC middleweight crown from Iran Barkley last February.

But a third shot at Leonard is all Duran has really wanted for nine years.

"I never lost hope that I would get Leonard again," he said.

Leonard's career soared after 'no mas'. His record ring earnings will reach at least \$95 million with 'Uno mas' and his 35-1-1 record includes triumphs over Thomas Hearns and Marvin Hagler this decade.

Leonard's WBC super middleweight title will be on the line, but that is not what Thursday's fight is about.

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Duran is responsible for entering two Spanish phrases into the American sports dictionary. The first, 'Manos de piedra,' symbolizes Duran's glory days. 'No mas' connotes his fall. Even if things go right for him Thursday night and Duran again comes to be known as 'Hands of stone,' the phrase 'no mas' will live.

And Duran is not the only man

haunted by those two words.

"It's become a joke, part of a monologue," Leonard said.

"There will always be certain innuendos about the fight. Kids on the street say 'no mas,' it becomes a joke. And my career's no joke."

Although he announced his retirement after the 'no mas' fight, Duran would have jumped

at an offer for an immediate rematch. He returned to Panama a disgraced man. He achieved a measure of redemption by knocking out Davey Moore for the World Boxing Association 154-pound (70 kg) title in 1983 and finally gained a rematch with Leonard by taking the WBC middleweight crown from Iran Barkley last February.

But a third shot at Leonard is all Duran has really wanted for nine years.

"I never lost hope that I would get Leonard again," he said.

Leonard's career soared after 'no mas'. His record ring earnings will reach at least \$95 million with 'Uno mas' and his 35-1-1 record includes triumphs over Thomas Hearns and Marvin Hagler this decade.

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Villa keep pace with League leaders

# Liverpool brush aside City

LONDON, Dec 2. (Reuters): Liverpool and Aston Villa eased two points clear at the top of the English First Division today as Chelsea's impressive unbeaten home run came to a spectacular end.

Two goals from Welsh striker Ian Rush swept League leaders Liverpool to a 4-1 win at managerless bottom club Manchester City.

Villa kept pace with a 2-1 home win over Nottingham Forest, new England striker David Platt clinching the victory with his 13th goal of the season 14 minutes from time as the Birmingham side moved into second place in the table level with Liverpool on 30 points.

But Chelsea, one of four sides on 27 points at the start of the day, lost ground as they surrendered their 28-match unbeaten run at Stamford Bridge by crashing 5-2 to London neighbours Wimbledon.

Chelsea's former Wimbledon goalkeeper Dave Beasant had a miserable afternoon. He had not lost in 19 home appearances as a Chelsea player and must have expected to extend that run when Kerry Dixon put the hosts 1-0 up after 70 seconds.

But two goals apiece from Terry Gibson and Dennis Wise plus another from Alan Cork left fourth-placed Chelsea's proud record in tatters.

Third-placed Arsenal, the League champions, tackle Manchester United tomorrow.



Rush: scored two for Liverpool

Liverpool fifth in the table six points off the lead just two weeks ago, were always in command against City, yet to find a replacement for manager Mel Machin who was sacked last month.

Rush shot Liverpool ahead in the eighth minute after City

goalkeeper Andy Dibble had blocked Dane Jan Molby's effort.

The Manchester side, who have won just one of the last eight matches, held their own for the remainder of the half but then went 2-0 down to a superb solo goal by England striker Peter

Beardsley three minutes after half-time.

Steve McMahon hit the third 10 minutes later before Clive Allen pulled one back for City from the penalty spot. Rush completed the scoring three minutes from time with his ninth goal of the season.

Villa, seeking to go clear at the top for the first time since they won the championship in 1981, went ahead through Ian Olney in the second minute against the season.

Striker Lee Chapman equalised midway through the first half when he turned in Steve Chettle's low cross and the visitors threatened to take charge when midfielder Steve Hodge rattled a post with a 25-metre drive after the interval.

But Platt clinched the points with a winner which extended Villa's impressive record to eight wins from their last nine games.

Results

English Division One	
Aston Villa	2 Notts Forest
Chelsea	0 Wimbleton
Crystal P	0 QPR
Derby	2 Charlton
Everton	2 Coventry
Luton	0 Tottenham
Man City	1 Liverpool
Millwall	2 Birmingham
Nottingham	2 Sheffield Wed
Playing Sunday: Arsenal v Manchester United	
English Division Two	
Barnsley	0 Ipswich
Bournemouth	0 Brighton
Leeds	1 Newcastle
Liverpool	2 Hartlepool
Oxford	3 Plymouth
Portsmouth	1 Watford
Port Vale	3 Bradford
Scottish Division One	
Aberdeen	2 Partick
Dundee	2 Motherwell
Dunfermline	0 Hibernian
Hearts	1 Rangers
St Mirren v Dundee United postponed	
Scottish Division One	
Albion	0 Ardrie
Alos	3 Raith
Clydebank	0 Morton
Forfar	0 Hamilton
Hamilton	0 Clyde
Partick	1 Ayr
St Johnstone	1 Meadowbank
Scottish Division Two	
Brechin	1 Cowdenbeath
Dumbarton	0 Arbroath
String	2 Montrose
Kilmarnock	1 Queen of S
Queen of S	5 East Fife
Stirling	1 Stehousemuir
Straider	0 Queen's Park

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